

SEVEN DAYS

winter
reading
issue



WUJANT'S INDEPENDENT VOICE DECEMBER 22-29, 2009 VOL. 15 NO. 18 SEVEN DAYS.COM

SAVOY FARE

PAGE 10

New theater owner projects future

DIY PUBLISHING

PAGE 34

Writers are doing it for themselves

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PAGE 42

One woman's recipe for collecting

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THE LAST SEVEN DAYS

DEC. 14-DEC. 21, 2005 | COMPLEXITY ENTERTAINMENT

This week, we're bidding farewell to our "Getting By" column, which focuses on how Vermonters are surviving the recession. But we know the economy hasn't quite recovered yet, so we've decided to move on and try something new. You'll find the final column on page 20.

Fortunately you can still access all of our "Getting By" columns on our website for free. Here's a partial list of what we covered:

@#\$\$%!



Getting By

12/25/05: A "savings" shop for money-saving tips

1/15/06: A backcountry shedder explains how to ski for free

2/16/06: A South Burlington mechanic recommends ways to maximize your mileage

4/15/06: Local financial institutions and nonprofits teach you to manage your money

4/25/06: Why buy a new bike when you can get a used one during the swap season?

5/12/06: A reader not wowed from Jaxcha shares her recipe, a tour of its vacation house, and a shopping trip

6/16/06: We take a tour of the new Vermont State Parks to help you find the best environment

6/16/06: We find advice on top of the Vermont State Parks to help you find the best environment

6/16/06: Learn how to escape cheap seats to local concerts and plays

11/15/05: Watch prime-time TV on the Internet instead of your cable bill

11/25/05: Our food editor lets us know to make your holiday leftovers last longer

Find them all at sevendaysvt.com.

facing facts



SANTA FINDS GRASS

A St. Johnsbury official announced that Christmas gifts are being distributed to the city's homeless. Santa Claus? He's not the only one who's poor.



AT THE 10TH HOUR BY HOURS

Verdant Associates is a new Vermont-based company that's helping to build a new Vermont. It's not just a company — it's a way of life.



NEEDN'T PANIC: INDIANA

The good news is that 2005 was a good year for Indiana. The bad news is that 2006 is a bad year for Indiana.



HOBY ACTUAL

For the first time, a group of people has been able to see a live performance of the band's new album. The band is now playing live shows.

PHOTOGRAPHY BY JEFFREY BOUTY

42

The 42nd annual Vermont State Fair is a great place to see the state's best. The fair is held at the Shelburne Fairgrounds. The fair is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. The fair is free to the public.

TOP FIVE

ADDITIONAL TOP FIVE LISTINGS

1. **Supper at the New Gallery Dining in St. Johnsbury** by Suzanne Phillips. The gallery is a great place to see the state's best. The gallery is open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. The gallery is free to the public.
2. **A Vermont Producers' Market in Burlington** by Andy Brown. A market that's open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. The market is free to the public.
3. **State of the Arts: Live Music** by Suzanne Phillips. A concert that's open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. The concert is free to the public.
4. **Fun Games: Building the Bridge** by Suzanne Phillips. A game that's open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. The game is free to the public.
5. **Seaside Producers' Market** by Suzanne Phillips. A market that's open from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Saturdays and Sundays. The market is free to the public.

blogworthy last week...

[SEVENDAYSVT.COM/BLOG](http://sevendaysvt.com/blog)



12/15: A local chef shares his recipe for a delicious dish.



12/15: A local author shares his new book.



12/15: A local author shares his new book.



12/15: A local author shares his new book.



12/15: A local author shares his new book.

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7 FEEDback

READER REACTION TO RECENT ARTICLES

CONFLICTED CHRISTMAS?

Tom Selman mentioning \$28 indicates
he admits a mistake was made ("Rise
Game," December 16). A few years
back the head of Burlington Electric
inductively remembered the city's weekly
bill after being pronounced by the
Department of Public Works' planed
to destroy WML on Monday eve (p. 10).
Grumble, grumble. Happy holidays
to all.

Dale Tidwell
BURLINGTON

REAL COMMUNITY

Well, Seven Days and Burlington
couldn't. I am the mother of Kristin Allen,
previously Kristin Carlin, who is pic-
tured with her golden-haired husband Dale
in ("Burlington's Golden-haired Couple
of a Shakes" December 2).

We are proud for obvious reasons
of Kristin and Jacqui, who are living in
a wonderful and inclusive city, doing
what they love to do. That is a rare
story today! As out-of-staters who enjoy
Burlington and its people, we appreciate
the good folks who have supported
our daughter throughout her years at
the University of Vermont and now the
bank of them, as citizens. The article
mentioned Harry Atteneau and Timothy
Gossens. They and their families, along
with the Penny Close "Family" and many



Kristin and Dale Allen

other friends, have kept Kristin and Dale
rooted in your community. Thank you
all for the positive support. Please also
person who played "jewelry store" (and
other businesses) for many years with
her daughter.

Wade Corbett
BRANDON, VT

GOT ZAT WRONG?

In her "Significant 7" column in the
December issue of Seven Days, Carolyn
Fox claims that the Rag Ball Vendors

TIM NEWCOMB



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contents

DECEMBER 22-29, 2008 VOL. 35 NO. 5

LOOKING FORWARD

20



42



46



48



NEWS

- 14 Know Where Your Organic Food Comes From? Maybe China**
BY ANDY CULLONEY
- 15 Burlington Police Scanner Go Silent — to the Public**
BY ANDY RODRIGUE
- 17 Who Will the Working Families Party Be For?**
BY ANDY RODRIGUE

ARTS NEWS

- 18 A Great Graphic Novel About... Hesperus!**
BY CATHY BISHOP
- 18 Sassy Changes Hands, Vermont Born Producer Discusses The Messenger**
BY MARGOT HARRISON
- 19 New Director Brings Extrapolated Sassy to HEARA**
BY KAREN J. KELLY

REVIEWS

- 50 Music**
Network, Master to Eight, Ben Thorpe, Shouting Silence at the Moon
- 58 Art**
Michael Stromas, Emily A. Grange Gallery
- 64 Movies**
The Road, a review

FEATURES

- 28 Local Store**
Business: Phoenix Books & Gifts
BY SARAH TOTT
- 28 Guiding Gifts**
Winter reading: Three new books for navigating through VT
BY SARAH TOTT
- 30 Book-Group Therapy**
Winter reading: The VT Humanities Council makes it social
BY KATIE LEWITT
- 32 Bivalve Job**
Book review: The Living Shore, Rediscovering a Lost World
BY ELIZABETH CRAIN
- 34 Self Published in the 80s**
Winter reading: Vermonters who put themselves in print
BY MARGOT HARRISON
- 38 Irish Ayes**
Book review: Pinnacles, Slaves and Slaveholders
BY ELIZABETH CRAIN

- 40 The Joy of Cookbooks**
Food & Farm culture book review: 3000 recipes to love
BY SUGARNE FORDHAUSER
- 42 Eat These Books**
Food & Vermont cookbook authors weigh in
BY KATIE LEWITT
- 46 Season's Greetings**
Music: Musicians' wish lists
BY DAN COLLIS

COLUMNS

- 12 Fair Game**
Open season on Vermont politics
BY EMILY TOTTEN
- 20 Getting By**
Vermonters survive the recession
BY CATHY BISHOP
- 24 The 20/20 Challenge**
Can northwesterners get it to 10? 20 Vermont residents in 20 weeks
BY LARSEN CARR
- 41 Side Diabes**
Lefebvre food news
BY SUGARNE FORDHAUSER
- 46 Soundbites**
Music: seven local voices
BY DAN COLLIS
- 50 Drums + Panned**
Newt's daughters from the Center for Children Studies
BY SAM GILSON
- 76 Mistress Move**
True guide to love in Vermont
BY MARGOT HARRISON

STUFF TO DO

- 10 The Magnificent 7**
- 46 Music**
- 52 Calendar**
- 58 Classes**
- 59 Art**
- 64 Movies**

VIDEO

Stuck in Vermont: What does being stuck in Vermont look like? An audience at the Vermont State Fair will find out when they see the premiere of *Stuck in Vermont* on the Vermont State Fair website, www.vtstatefair.com.



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MUST SEE, MUST DO THIS WEEK

COMPILED BY CAROLYN FOX

TUESDAY 22 WEDNESDAY 23
SATURDAY 26 - WEDNESDAY 30

Bee Aggressive

Charlottesville starts the busy ones spelling the busy holiday. Bring them all the power of their spirit in Northern Shays' round-up of **The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee**. Packed with laughs and charming, playing a busy bee set. It's a fun event for all ages, audience volunteers on stage — a fun twist that always spells success.

SEE CALENDAR SPOTLIGHT ON PAGE 32

4

WEDNESDAY 23 Santa's Helpers

They often end up in our Christmas stockings, but where do they come from? Like its own little Santa's workshop, participants of **Santa's Laughing Mean Christmas** go to jail, burn and die all these seasonal events into the town of **Weston's County Court-House**. And with decorative writing, common and simple words, it must be good.

SEE CALENDAR LISTING ON PAGE 32

SATURDAY 26

Hey, New, You're an All-Star

Many people know the 2003 Jack Black Rock School of Rock, but probably few are familiar with the **Paul Simon School of Rock Music** — and that's only real. Students of all ages of 12-18 will have a chance to experience their stage power and the best of all, a concert venue — no doubt, the best Partners' assignment ever. **Each The School of Rock All-Star** will get a personal assignment.

SEE MUSIC SPOTLIGHT ON PAGE 32



5

2 SATURDAY 20
Spin Cycle

Spokes & Cycling: The two just don't mix. Do they? Old Spokes Horse's **Winter Riding Bike Class** gets you in best prep for surviving in the weather. Covering everything from proper outdoor wear to how to soup up your ride, you'll be spinning your wheels in no time. **Goats.** No windshields to scrape.

THE CALENDAR LITVING (2007) PAGE 54

ENDING 3 A Good Impression

No matter how many times you've seen the Burlington Bowlhouse, you can still gaze shell awestruck. South Burlington artist **Michael Stouss** takes it all on canvas. It's bright water colors and edge ridings on pure seawater. Sea Palaces is well as sculpting limbo spots and simple still lifes with soft style influenced by Caravaggio impressionism. Get a fresh look at Vermont through his current exhibit at Jericho's Enrie & Grasse Gallery.

EUGENIE REYNOLDS-HILL, PH.D.

WEDNESDAY 23 - THURSDAY 24
Funny Games

What's tops in Chinese food plans on Christmas? Not much — that is, if you don't peck in pulled-beef dumplings. That's what **Max Jew Comedy** comes in Burlington Lanesman Jason P. Laflin believes: two nights of Jewish yids over a snitching four-course top in Asian Bites. Natch in Jewish year, it's a home ride holiday tradition.

SEE CALENDAR SPOTLIGHT
ON PAGE 82



WEDNESDAY 22
Mad World

It's hard not to get wrapped up in the holiday cheer when a 50-member choir is serenading you with seasonal tunes. The **Mad River Chorus** does just that—in its annual "Christmas Eve Car Concert." Featuring Irish Carolers, local new-age instrumentalists and an audience sing-along, The Young-Simpson Chorus of Remond, step up to the stage for a winter rally.

SEE FULL ENGLISH LISTING ON PAGE 54

everything else.

MUSIC	P40
CALENDAR	P52
CLASSES	P56
ART	P59
MOVIES	P64

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OPINION

To Your Health



As long as national health care reform requires round the clock nursing, Vermont lawmakers will be under pressure to provide a remedy of their own when they convene January.

Advocates for a "Medicare for All" system, also known as "single payer," will hit the ground running on day one of the 2016 legislative session.

On January 6, the first working day for lawmakers, the Vermont Workers' Center will deliver thousands of signed petitions to them, demanding health care as a human right.

In 2006, the VWC launched the Red Thread for a Human Right Campaign. On May 1, 2009, Congress and state legislatures that later roughly 200 participants — on a working day. The VWC is planning another rally for 2010, but this time May 1 falls on a Sunday.

Throughout the fall, VWC held a series of forums around the state. About 800 people, as well as 70 state legislators, took part.

VWC is also teaming up with the state's largest insurers' union to push for a single payer health care system in Vermont.

At a recent press conference, **JENNIFER HANSEN**, RN, said, "The money and power of the big corporations that [are] causing a storm of destruction in Washington [are] almost matchless in Vermont; what we hear loud and clear are the voices of our citizens." Hansen is the president of the 1700-member *Flint for All* nurses' union. "We need a Medicare for all style system in Vermont... For a small state, Vermont has often been a leader. We have the will, we have the courage, we have the strength, and now we must work together to make it happen."

Sen. **DOUG RACINE** (D-Chittenden) also supports a single payer system. "I think we can move forward regardless of what Washington does," said Racine, who is chair of the Senate Health and Welfare Committee. He plans to host hearings this session to examine how Vermont can move to Medicare for All.

"We're already operating under a number of Medicaid waivers to provide some programs," Racine noted, "so we're providing a lot of health care but in a rather convoluted way." He'd like

Vermont to start building a single payer model by streamlining our federally funded health care programs.

Racine is one of five Democrats running for governor in 2010.

House Speaker **SHAP SMITH** said his chamber is likely to take up a single-payer bill, as well as another bill by Rep. **PAUL PERROW** (I-Barre), which would merge all state, municipal and educational workers into one insurance pool. Other residents could then buy insurance through that larger pool, hopefully at significantly lower costs.

I THINK WE CAN MOVE FORWARD REGARDLESS OF WHAT WASHINGTON DOES.

SEN. DOUG RACINE (D-CHITTENDEN)

Senate President Pro Tem **PETER SHERRILL** can't see a single piece of legislation will emerge this session, but he expects progress. Like Racine, Sherrill is running for governor.

"The last bit hope that Washington is going to pass a health care bill that is helpful to Vermont," said Sherrill. "I've recognized Vermont is going to have to get it done in moving to a system that allows health care to follow individuals and not employers. That should be Vermont's goal."

He said he'd like to see Vermont model its insurance system after Taiwan's.

So would Sen. **DAVID DANGERS** (I-VT). He used Taiwan as a model of health care reform during a recent floor speech touting the single payer model.

"After searching the entire world, Taiwan decided to model their system after Medicare," noted Dangers. "That they decided to insure everyone."

Similarly, Racine notes that merging various programs like Dr. Dynarski, VHAP and long-term care under a single Medicaid waiver could save enough money to expand access to more people.

Single payer advocates claim Vermont could save millions by eliminating bureaucratic waste.

Would the \$7 million retirement bonus awarded to the outgoing CBO

of Blue Cross Blue Shield of Vermont qualify as bureaucratic waste?

Dr. **BARBARA** of Vermont for Single Payer suggests as much in a blog post on her organization's website. She noted that \$7 million could fund:

- nearly 80 primary care physicians for one year, with each doc serving roughly 1000 patients, or;
- more than 300 home health aides for one year, which would allow seniors to receive care in their homes rather than in more expensive institutions, or;
- more than half of Vermont's projected \$12 million Medicaid shortfall due year, or;
- the salaries of 42 dentists for one year.

Moving to a single-payer model, Racine noted, would save Vermont much more than \$7 million annually.

"Salaries range from \$50 to \$500 million a year," said Racine. "Imagine how much we could do for the people of Vermont with that kind of money. Our money."

Reaching for Recognition

After months without a chairperson, Gov. **JOE WILSON** appointed **CHARLES DELANEY MAGNUS** of Burlington to lead the Vermont Commission on Status American Affairs.

The commission has had its share of internal political problems — three people have held the job in a year — as well as a general lack of support from the legislature and governor.

Delaney Magnus, a Montpelier Abenaki, has worked on native issues for more than two decades. In the 1990s, he was the tribal health ambassador to the Vermont and US governments. He was also an indigenous representative to the United Nations from 2002 to 2004, one of many from around the globe who helped draft the UN Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples.

Delaney Magnus successfully convinced Burlington to recognize the Abenaki in 1995, and was one of the key figures lobbying the state legislature for Abenaki recognition and the creation of the VCNAA, which happened in 2006. He joined the VCNAA in September 2008.

At the beginning of 2009, the VCNAA made Delaney Magnus its legislative



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Know Where Your Organic Food Comes From? Maybe China

BY ANNE GALLIMAN

Vermont is up and natural-food store managers like to tout their localness first. They talk about how much local food they buy and the extent to which they accommodate regional organic growers.

They have reason to boast: It's the big eatery operators—Healthy Living, City Market, Hunger Mountain Food Co-op, Primitives Food Co-op and The Co-op Food Store in New Hampshire—go to great effort to source local foods from hundreds of area farmers and vendors.

Well, at the height of the growing season, only as much as 10 percent of the foods available comes from a good local source.

Most organic products sold in Vermont co-ops and natural food stores are not local. In fact, some organic foods are not even domestic. That's because, as co-op managers say, they are dependent on large distributors for products, and they simply don't have access to domestic products in certain categories.

Fresh organic vegetables and fruit have never been readily available in stores from local sources, but now even some bulk and frozen foods come from overseas.

Seven of eight natural-food companies, including Vermont Natural Products Co-op and United Natural Foods, Inc. (UNFI), which are dominant purveyors of organic foods in the United States, have recently started shipping products from as far away as China, India and South America to Vermont co-ops and natural food stores.

According to Jon Riggsby, a project manager for Iowa City-based National Co-operative Grocers Association (NCGA), 70 to 90 percent of organic foods sold at co-ops in the United States are distributed by UNFI, which has 12 warehouses located throughout the country, including one in Cheshire, N.H. Riggsby says UNFI is the

largest independent distributor of organic foods in the U.S., second only to Wal-Mart. Repeated attempts to reach UNFI officials were unsuccessful.

Many of the products now grown in China, for the U.S. organic market, such as garlic, used to be successfully grown in this country, according to co-op managers. Bulk bins houses filled on the UNFI website, including pine nuts, pumpkin seeds, black beans, soybeans, adzuki beans and tung beans, are all sourced from China.

In addition, most natural foods stores and co-ops offer frozen

foods from Woodstock Farms, a house brand owned by UNFI that distributes imported Chinese broccoli, asparagus, spinach, peas, mushrooms, edamame and peppers. Some freeze a foods from Canadian Farms, including the company's California mix of cauliflower, broccoli and carrots are also from China.

Chinese foods—organic meats, produce, frozen vegetables, meat and seafood—must be labeled under the new country-of-origin labeling law known as COOL, but inspection information for other organic foods is optional. With the exception of nuts, bulk bins labels on some food stores rarely list the country of origin. That's because, as co-op managers say, it's difficult to maintain the organic life food lines.

City Market in Burlington does not provide country-of-origin information on most bulk bins, according to general manager Cassie Mills. The store offers organic black beans from several different sources, including UNFI and Redcliffe Farm in Vermont. "It's not that we're trying to hide anything," Mills says. "The way Vermont agriculture grows, we only have black beans for example of which we search out responsibility to the local sources."

Kate Bradley, manager of Hunger Mountain Co-op in Montpelier, says her store

doesn't make a special effort to identify the country of origin for bulk foods because they are rarely added commodities.

"I know from products, it's a challenge to maintain the integrity," Bradley says. "The night by getting things from different countries, two different bags on the same day. Maybe if people knew more about it, they'd feel first. We haven't had a lot of interest in that on the bulk side."

Bradley says the Chinese now dominate the fresh-garlic market. Hunger Mountain is working with a local source of garlic, he says, but the co-op is not able to source it from Vermont any more. "If you're a grower without a local source of garlic, like we're fortunate to have, you don't have a lot of options at this point," Bradley says.

MOST ORGANIC PRODUCTS SOLD AT VERMONT CO-OPS AND NATURAL FOOD STORES ARE NOT LOCAL.

Riggsby says the NCGA is not actively pressuring UNFI to seek more domestic sources for organic food. The trade association is working on "the policy level" in Washington.

Rick Warden, "a fine to choose what you want to sell, and they're going to tell what that consumer purchase," Riggsby says. "The last way to go about making these changes is for consumers not to purchase those products."

When asked how consumers can buy products of more and food manufacturers to notify consumers of the country of origin, Riggsby and Warden say "it's unrealistic that comes from store to store."

Mills says their work a national movement to ensure access to domestic organic foods, though co-ops in the Northeast are coming together to identify regional organic food sources. "I think there would be support from the national or regional, but the effort to grow things locally will come from local organizations," Mills says.

Mills says 10 percent of City Market's food comes from local vendors in Vermont, and he prefers to buy local conventional foods over foreign organic products. "Our business model is seasonal local food, and as we buying things should all things to equal, if they're local product is better," Mills says. "That means there's no price differentiation or nothing qualitatively different. Like one is organic and one is conventional."

The source of ingredients for processed foods is even more opaque, according to Vermont state managers. UNFI, labeling doesn't seem into play for packaged food products with UNFI that ends such as soups, granola foods and soy products. Mills says, "We haven't done know" where the ingredients for soups and other products come from.

St. Louis Goldsmith, manager of Healthy Living in South Burlington, says his store works hard to find local and domestic organic food, but it isn't always easy to come up with U.S. sources, particularly for frozen foods. Healthy Living carries the Woodstock Farms label.

"The frozen source supply chain is even more complicated and even more limited than the regular supply chain," Louise Goldsmith says. "Frozen foods are incredibly difficult to handle. If something gets worse than 15 minutes, it's not viable. If it sits up to me, I would tell everyone to get out of here. I don't know frozen foods at all. It's not what we're all about at Healthy Living. I want people to buy fresh foods, fresh vegetables."

He says he hasn't had a single complaint from a customer about the lack of natural food items in products from overseas.

"People are pretty forgiving about the products that we pick," Louise Goldsmith says. "We really take care in choosing all of our products and make sure they're strict to our guidelines in the kitchen, as healthful, as nutritious and respect. But even though it's going to be a successful business, I'm thinking that was grown in an organic farm." ☐

B The art of the deal published in *Vermont* is a significant work of Vermont business and government. Ann Galloway is the editor.

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Burlington Police Scanners Go Silent — to the Public

BY ANDY BROMAGE

There's no police radio in most Vermont towns and you'll hear patrol officers and dispatchers broadcast critical information about accidents, breakdowns and occasionally major crimes.

That's not the Burlington Police Department's primary radio channel — 446.123 megahertz on any police scanner — and you'll hear nothing but static, interrupted by a chime every time a microphone

Without features last spring, Burlington police encrypted their most important channel, making it impossible to hear anything being discussed over the most commonly used police radio frequency several of Burlington's least- and almost certainly never-encrypted, so does the city far down their channel.

That's not police radio in response to what Police Chief Mike Schelling says was a major problem: citizens, or someone, could be using police scanners and not knowing to anticipate and rule police response into a log to a scanner or home car truck police, breaking up, and only their communications via text message to an dispatcher looking into cars or selling drugs on a street corner. The encryption will improve public safety and officer safety, the chief says.

"Scanners are pretty pervasive," Schelling says. "The difference is that now with our equipment, only those who are supposed to have it can hear everything made to carry a scanner with them. It has a lot of multiplying effect for them that is pretty significant."

Crucially, encryption is not a police radio isn't a new problem. But until recently, the technology required to decrypt and encrypt police radio was not pervasive, Schelling says. Burlington police encrypted their radios as part of a five-year, \$1.1 million upgrade to the department's communications system funded through grants.

BPD's radio audio has left radio both types such as Jim Lawrence, parked — and more than a little period. Lawrence lives on Rutland's Center and wants to Street Days to improve security about the encryption.

He says the blanket comes around important questions. Why would the public informed about the events and allowed a constant flow? With Burlington police encrypted, how are neighboring departments such as Windsor and South Burlington be informed of a major accident affecting multiple communities? Why remove virtually all police chatter from the

public channel? Why not just restore the encrypted channel for the most sensitive information?

"Prior to encryption, the police had literally hundreds of cars a day and some of those communications could come from them if they saw someone the police were looking for and provide tips," notes Lawrence, who stresses he is not "radioing."

Chief Schelling explains that police need a common channel — otherwise, as Channel 12 — that, used by all local departments and the state police for sharing information. If something big went down that affected multiple towns, the police would use the emergency line as a backup. He says he would use

Burlington's non-encrypted police channel are mostly used by the agency to agency communication. Long distance communication and, at times, when multiple cars are happening simultaneously. A good example is the Burlington marathon. Deputy Chief Mike Decker says, when police, event staff and personnel would require additional radio channels.

Police radio encryption is a hot topic on websites such as RadioFreeEngland.net, where scanner jockeys debate whether having the public from monitoring police channels is a breach of government transparency.

WPX Channel 6 news director Susan Stadel says that by staying tuned to police activity, the media can quickly inform thousands of people about a public safety hazard.

"Now I don't know how we're going to communicate that," Stadel says. "Does someone have to write a press release? Does someone tweet it? Adding another layer of communication where public safety is at risk I don't think helps a lot."

Police log says Burlingtonians have no means to access for getting police information, including daily street logs, police radio along and the Radio system, a Twitter-like service that blurs neighborhood-specific crime alerts and public safety information to subscribers.

Burlington is the first among Vermont's County police departments headed toward radio encryption, including such as South Burlington, Essex and the University of Vermont are the transitioning to encrypted channels, he adds.

For scanner hobbyists like Lawrence, that can only mean more static. ☐

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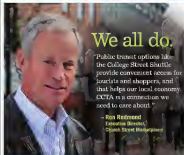
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Who Will the Working Families Party Be Working For?

BY ANDY BROMAGE

No candidates. No money. No staff. No clear agenda.

On the face of it, the newly launched Vermont Working Families Party seems like a sorry means for a political party. But its leaders hope to score big victories on kitchen table issues at the Statehouse next year — all without putting a single WFP candidate in office.

The Vermont Working Families Party is the Green Mountain State's newest political party.

Like Working Families parties in New York and Connecticut, the Vermont chapter won't run its own candidates, but instead will "cross-endorse" candidates who support its public agenda. Republicans, Democrats or others who are cross-endorsed will get a "Working Families Party" label next to their name on the election ballot.

That strategy and the backing of powerful labor unions have made the Connecticut and New York Working Families parties increasingly influential points of players, able to sway close elections with their money, political organization and armies of campaign workers.

POLITICS

members but doesn't vote for them because they think, as Bush puts it, "These guys in Washington aren't on the same level of people."

Founded in New York in 1998, the Working Families Party has expanded into Connecticut, Oregon, South Carolina and now Vermont. Labor unions are its backbone, and union men have made up about half of the Vermont chapter's members.

shop, Bush says. Martin Allen, the newly named head of the state's 1,800-member teachers' union, is a WFP endorser. Vermont's election rules make cross-endorsing candidates far easier than in other states. But there's a notable drawback in Vermont law that undermines one of the WFP's key strategies. Candidates endorsed by the WFP in other states get their name on the ballot twice — once on the major-party line, and once on the WFP line.

That helps the WFP exactly how many votes it contributed to the candidate — and, if it's large enough, that number can be used to elect the argument that a WFP endorser went pushed a candidate over the top.

Convince a candidate you votes represent the weight of victory: the lefty press, and your influence, given dramatically bolstered those kitchen table issues, get a closer look.

That won't happen in Vermont — at least not with out changing the law. Here, when a candidate is cross-endorsed by a second party, each parties appear on the same ballot line, in separate boxes called "aggregated issues." That's the way to track which label motivated the vote.

Just who will benefit most from the WFP's endorsements — and, more importantly, their money, campaign workers and advertising — remains to be seen.

In two-party states, it's a clear story: Democrats, who are generally more supportive of the WFP's agenda. But in Vermont, where Progressives and Independents hold elective office, it may play out a little differently. The heads of both the Democratic and Progressive parties believe their candidates are the clear favorites.

"I don't think about completely in our message," says Robert Donnelly, executive director of the Vermont Democratic Party. "We want the same thing in one out of 10 elections."

Progressive Party executive director Margie Doyle predicts a difficult outcome. "We expect most of our candidates will get their endorsement," he says, even when they're running against Democrats.

Republicans aren't expecting much love from the WFP. "I wouldn't completely rule it out," Republican Party chairman Steve LaRocca says, "but I think they're more apt to support the Progressives." □

IT'S TIME FOR A PARTY THAT WILL ALWAYS STAND UP FOR AVERAGE VERMONTERS.

RICK RUSSELL, WFP COCHAIR

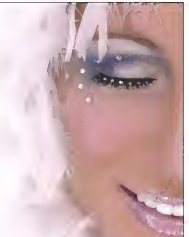
Inspired by that success, a coalition of labor leaders, farmers and others gathered at the Unitarian Church in Montpelier on December 14 to form a Vermont chapter. Party leaders nervously met a state filing deadline that will let them cross-endorse candidates in next year's statewide election, from the governor down.

"I came for a party that will always stand up for average Vermonters on kitchen table issues — and make sure politicians deliver on their promises," says Rick Russell, a farmer and chairmaker from Placerville who is one of five newly named WFP leaders. "That's why we're starting a Working Families Party."

What are kitchen table issues? Dan Bush, former president of the Vermont AFL-CIO and a WFP co-founder, says the party will back candidates who support universal health care, living jobs and paid sick days. Reasoning, giving a staff and defining the party's platform come next.

Weak-follower Vermont voters are "the guests" with Democrats, Republicans and Progressives — as well as all the political figures pointing.

By focusing exclusively on pocketbook issues, Bush believes the Working Families Party will attract the type of voters who agree with Democrats or Progressives on economic



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A Great Graphic Novel About ... Herpes?

BY CATHY RESMER

What do you do after you're diagnosed with a sexually transmitted disease?

If you're comicist **GARRY SCHULZ**,

you write a graphic novel about it.

Schulz, 51, resides in White River Junction; he was a fellow at the **CENTER FOR**

CARTOON STUDIES during the 2000-01 school

year. In September,

comic press **Secret**

Seven published

Monsters, his semi-

autobiographical account of living with

herpes. Schulz wrote it using the pseudonym

Ken Dink, a name he created while drawing

a weekly comic strip a decade ago. His first

book, an anthology of his work from 1997-

2000, is called *Exposure in the Adult Room*.

Schulz explains his non-de phrase in a

phone interview: "When I was going to col-

lege, I worked at a place where there were

two adult ladies," he says. "I didn't want to

be associated with what I did."

But Schulz doesn't mind being associated

with a 200-page book about herpes. That's

less surprising than it sounds. *Monsters* is

both informative and, believe it or not,

entertaining. It's received critical accl-

am from the **Queer Art Club** and **Bookends**, and

has appeared on **Best Books of 2009** lists at

the **Brooklyn Weekly** and **Forbidden Planet** (online).

Monsters opens in 2002, Ken knows getting

cold sores but doesn't know why. At the end

of 2003, his girlfriend experiences an oral

burst of genital herpes. A blood test reveals

they both have the virus, and it appears Ken

gave it to her. The resulting pity and shame

near them apart.

Afterward, Ken tries to remove, redress

but feels like she fails to reveal his infection

to some of his potential partners. Schulz de-

pictions of Ken's potential self-loathing are

among the strongest images in the book. In

one panel, he wakes up next to a woman he

believes he's just seduced after a drunken

hookup. She steps aside from his face, and

eyes wide open, a pining hole in his chest.

Drawing those images "was almost with-

drawn," he says. "When I was drawing it,

it would just sort of come out. I didn't think

about it too much."

"Geezus," he adds, "seems to operate on

a more raw-emotional level. You're expres-

sing things without text, so the frontal cortex

doesn't have to do a lot of work. There's a

lot of monkey or lizard brain at work there.

Sometimes that creates some pretty cool

results."

Ken eventually learns more about herpes,

including the fact that about 35 percent of

American adults have the virus, though many

never show symptoms. At one point, he dis-

covers images of herpes sores online, which

he views as brutal dates. "Rude, it's

disgusting," he shouts. "But I think that's one

of the strengths of comics. You can really take

it over the top with that stuff."

Schulz remembers being diagnosed with

herpes and feeling like "this is so awful and

hideous and disgusting, and no one will want



to be with me or touch me again." Writing the

book, he says, was a way of describing the

discrete for others who might be in agreement

to be with me when he was first diagnosed.

"It's just a star wish," he explains. "But

at the same time, it's the most embarrassing

thing in the world, going through it

with all the stigma."

Schulz says he's never surprised and

pleased by the book's success, but he does

with being "the herpes guy." He compares to

another project, a comic about a super-crazy

in his home state of Hawaii. "It combines all

my favorite things," he says. "Herpes, disaster

and people put on model costumes." **D**

f **Monsters** by Garry Schulz. Secret Acres
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Savoy Changes Hands, Vermont-Born Producer Discusses *The Messenger*

BY MARGOT HARRISON

By now (and) film fans probably know

that **BOB DOWD** and **ANGELA GAGLIOLA**

have sold the **SAVOY THEATRE**, their

20-year-old Montpelier art-house

cinema, to local documentary film-

maker **TURNERHOUSE** LLC.

So what does the 50-year-old Montpelier

resident have planned for the Savoy? Reached

by phone on his way to another interview,

Yack says he was up the

previous night learning to

use the projector some-

times, he's excited about

"a combination of the history of other mount-

ing picture houses or theaters."

Well, says the theater's "incredible site"

will attract around. Otherwise, "there are going

to be changes and there aren't going to be

excellence at the Savoy, and I intend to keep it

that way."

But one thing that needs changing, he

acknowledges, is the theater's sight lines.

Yack hopes to eliminate complaints about

poor visibility by raising the screen about a

foot. "In the first month or so," He'd also like

to improve the Savoy's sound system and give

up space to an basement — which houses a

video store — by building a wheelchair

access to all the DVDs here to be displayed

on shelves. The new space might become

home to a second, smaller screen and a film

club series.

"Video rental as general use is really dis-

tinged business right now," notes Yack. He's

considering the possibility of competing with

Nathan by having high school kids to deliver

DVDs to the door.

Yack observes that at the

Savoy, "most of the average

goers are now over 40 years

and above — and movies up

through elderly." The chal-

lenger of programming films

that appeal to this core group,

while also reaching out to

younger viewers and dealing

with the intricacies of film

distribution, amounts to a

"very complex ecology," he

says.

One way to get youthful audiences to the

Savoy, of course, is "more social networking,"

Yack points to "update our Facebook

page and Twitter connectivity." Online polls,

he says, will let viewers "indicate what they'd

like to be seeing. It's essential to have that

kind of input."

When it comes to his own film-making,

Yack — whose previous documentary

subject, *The Nature of Place*, played at sev-

eral local film fests — says he'll "take a bit of

a break. I've had to think of deadlines." After

three years of 10- to 16-hour days of editing,



he says, he's happy to be running a projector

instead.

The *Messenger* is one of those award-win-

ning movies everybody's talking about

And starting January 5, Vermonters

shouldn't catch it at its full **16mm**

INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL will put a

chance to see it at the Palace.

In advance of that, I had a phone chat with

Louise Lupton, the film's producer — who

was born in Rutland and left Vermont at 16.

The *Messenger* is a drama about the US's

current military engagements, but from an

unusual home-front perspective. Woody

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GETTING BY | Vermonters surviving the recession
BY CATHY BESMER

How We Got Through the Year

Last winter, the economic situation seemed pretty grim. The collapse of Lehman Brothers in September set off a panic, the stock market tanked, and people weren't all that we might be led for another Great Depression.

As we head into 2010, the odds haven't quite turned, but things do seem to be getting...better. It feels like we've pulled back from the brink. There just seemed few chances. Not Bernanke's 2009 Person of the Year for preventing "an

Jodi Whalen, co-owner of Burlington's August First, recalled how she and her husband, Phil Kermick, decided to start their bakery a year ago, "at the height of the market crash and fear about a new Great Depression."

So far, their gamble has paid off — the South Champlain Street eatery seems to be thriving. But Whalen noted that they've been frugal, using secondhand and recycled equipment whenever possible. "Our menu board was once a

"We found with the downturn, especially with the housing crash, renters just didn't have the money to spend," and USM account executive Spencer Taylor.

By, rather than focusing solely on customer service, the company decided to create a web platform that could sell at an introductory rate to clients who couldn't afford all the bells and whistles. Clients could then add more features as they were able. USM also beefed up its Internet marketing services. "We've seen a huge growth in interest without marketing," Taylor noted.

That change is soon inspired USM to expand. It actually added seven jobs in the past year, including Taylor's, bringing the total workforce to 21.

Taylor called 2009 "a building year" for the company, which hopes to invest more will pay off in 2010.

It was definitely a difficult year for nonprofits and community organizations. Many of them saw donations drop off with the need for services rose. In November, the Associated Press reported that donations to food drives for the Christmas Emergency Food Shelf in Burlington were down, in some cases by more than 50 percent.

But sometimes that struggle brings out the best in people. Burlington Food Shelf chairman Bruce Desrochers told us the organization got by "thanks to an incredible group of community-minded folks who helped keep the Burlington Food Shelf strong."

He added, "You can never get through a year like this without many helping hands." ☐

WE ASKED READERS TO TELL US HOW THEY AND THEIR BUSINESSES
MANAGED THIS PAST YEAR. THEIR RESPONSES INDICATE THAT
MAYBE THINGS AREN'T SO BAD AFTER ALL...

economic catastrophe." And last Friday, the Vermont Department of Labor announced that the jobless rate fell for a sixth straight month. November's was 6.6 percent, compared with 8.8 percent in October and 24 percent in May.

Andrew Condon, economic and workforce information chief at the Vermont Department of Labor, is hopeful. "It's probably too optimistic to say we've seen the bottom and are on recovery," he told the Burlington Free Press, "but stable job counts are not a bad thing."

And so, after a year of sharing personal stories and money-saving strategies, we're ending "Getting By" our columns devoted to how Vermonters are surviving the recession. But our final column, we asked readers to tell us how they and their businesses managed this past year. Their responses indicate that maybe things aren't so bad after all.

We heard from a Burlington resident who cut costs by refinancing her house and from a Colchester man who saved money by switching from Labor Blue to Reddit, though he says he "may have left the difference on toilet paper."

Several people told us they used the downturn as an opportunity to go back to school or start their own business. One former Seven Days staffer, who now lives in California, reported that she had a tough time finding employment after being laid off from her last job in that state. "I decided to launch my own biz... and I retained my former employer as a client," she wrote.

screen door," she explained. "Our staff aprons and linen's hats are made from reclaimed men's dress shirts, and our towel rack is made from old wooden window blinds from a coastal Vermont town. By paying attention instead of paying money," she concluded, "we were able to open our doors without breaking the bank."

Other local businesses responded to the challenging economic climate by surviving themselves. Union Street Media is one such example. The Burlington-based web development firm specializes in making websites for real estate firms, particularly for high-end clients. But the luxury real estate market was hit hard by the economic crisis.



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For school information and to make transfer applications, consult school policies, or please contact the administrator you are considering.

In addition to the program South Burlington's entrance program applied to all students has been used as a standard included in 5 Georgia County Districts, St. George and 2000 students. Major factors apply: international students provided FBI documents are accepted to the parents, questions or the CBSD website apply.

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Dear Cecil:

On the one hand I want to eat farmed salmon because wild salmon is being depleted by overfishing. On the other hand, I hear there are all sorts of pollutants in salmon farms, and farmed fish are full of antibiotics. So which is better: farm-raised or wild?

Juliah

Dear Cecil:

I've heard wild fish served in fast-food eateries is an ugly euphemism from the waters off New Zealand I don't eat at such places but wonder how far up the restaurant scale these things travel. How many fish are considered garbage are now served with a more palatable name?

Chris Schneider La Jolla, Calif.



honestly to satisfy my appetite—please stop me something other. The fish has firm flesh high in omega-3 acids and makes a fine fish sandwich at McDonald's. Slightly important, unlike many common fish, there are (for now) a fair number of them left.

That's the basic problem, you see. Remember the cod, seemingly infinite in number and fished for centuries in the North Atlantic? The fishery collapsed in 1992, the victim of rapacious factory fishing and thoughtless management. The number of cod today is something like one percent of what it was in the 1930s. Forty thousand people were thrown out of work. It's not known when or if the fishery will recover.

Similarly, the West Coast salmon fishery faltered in 2006. The Atlantic halibut run has been reduced to about 15 percent of pre-industrial numbers, and fishing has been scaled back, some think even the lower catch will destroy what remains. In a 2006 paper, researchers led by Peter Worm of Canada's Dalhousie University reported that 26 percent of world fisheries had collapsed, with

catches falling below 10 percent of the original yield. They projected the remaining commercial fish species would be exhausted by mid-century, meaning no more wild fish, pretty or not.

Given dwindling supplies, it's not surprising that you're running into a bit of bait and switch. The FDA recently determined that 37 percent of fish and 13 percent of other seafood was mislabeled. As much as 77 percent of so-called red snapper is something but. The FDA has established guidelines for fish labeling, but thanks to industry lobbying there are plenty of exceptions. This has led to some weird, misleading, import-export selling Vietnamese cod fish under the brand name Capan Delight. Other species have been given more appealing monikers as well. The rock crab, once a garbage catch, was reborn as the polychaete crab. The channel catfish has become the southern trout, dolphinfish is now mahi-mahi, and the Patagonian toothfish is now the Chilean sea bass.

The Mahi-mahi blood snapper was renamed sword snapper. The fish, known as orange roughy once to be called the sturgeon. So, are less desirable fish finding their way into fancy restaurants? Yes, because, increasingly, that's all you left.

As for you, Juliah, I've got some bad news and some worse news. The bad news is that, as you've heard, farmed salmon is problematic. Studies from around the world have found farm-raised salmon contain more carcinogenic PCBs and dioxins than

wild ones do, typically edging in their fat. In some cases the levels of contaminants are so high that by EPA guidelines you shouldn't even have one serving a month—it's more like one every five months in the case of some northern European farmed salmon. Better than eating meat that the risk of cancer from contaminants is about three times higher for farmed salmon compared to wild.

Salmon farming is rough on the environment, so fish runoff has been linked to increased mercury levels in wild fish nearby. Fish parasites can run rampant in salmon farms and spread into the wild. Fish like coho, copper and mas-

can contribute the water run resulting salmon poise.

Then the good stuff in farmed salmon comes with problems. You, farmed salmon contain more of several than wild, including heart-friendly omega-3, but a much greater percentage of the oil in the form of not-so-healthy omega-6.

The worse news is, you'd better get used to it. Commercial salmon fishing is gone in the Atlantic, and things don't look promising in the Pacific. In a perfect world, wild salmon would be a better choice than farmed. But we had a perfect world, so far as fishing was concerned, and we used it up.

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WHAT'S WRONG WITH WELL-LIT?

Jim Rappaport "Action! Steps" December 23 While I have some real criticisms about the concept and execution of "The Art of Action!" I applaud Lipton Orfan for his effort and his generous support of Vermont art and artists. Unlike most of us, he puts his money where his mouth is.

I know a number of the artists involved in this project and enjoyed seeing their work in Montpelier. I like the idea of displaying artwork in accessible, unexpected venues around the state, making the work as available as possible, and would like to see more of it.

However, Alex Aldrich, the director of the Vermont Arts Council, should really consider what he says more carefully. As reported in *Action! Steps*, his remark, "We're not going to traditional, busy-story galleries where everything is perfectly lit and neatly set off" is really insulting and wrong-headed.

Insulting because most of the Vermont galleries I know of are far from busy-story and can only wish they were well lit. Rather, they are more often struggling, cramped, welcoming enterprises — hungry for viewers.

Wrong-headed because exhibit spaces should — not of recent for the artists' work — be as well lit as possible and nicely set off. Where exactly does Mr. Aldrich think Vermont artists get to show and sell their work? A "well lit, nicely set off" environment is the *goal* conception. Most artists in this state show at clubs, already known as "not traditional" venues, restaurants, lodges, halfway houses and the like. They're all tremendous spaces, but none conducive to really looking at, understanding and appreciating artwork for its own sake. Galleries try to offer that opportunity.

Many people are already intimidated by the idea of going into an art gallery, and this foolish for the director of one of Vermont's leading arts organizations to perpetuate this tired old stereotype.

I think Alex Aldrich owes most Vermont gallery owners — and artists — an honest apology, and the Vermont Arts Council owes the galleries some real support.

Thanks for your article coverage, I look forward to Keri's Kelley's review of the show.

Mason Singer
CALAIS

DON'T STEREOTYPE NORWICH

Even though a 1869 Norwich graduate, I am not inclined to reflexively defend my alma mater. However, your article "Carpenter Confesses" [December 23] did

raise my ire. Frankly, even before I got to the survey results, I detected the hint of what some might call stereotyping and unfairness would depict as profiling. Therefore, I appreciate your corrections to the survey.

I would encourage *Action! Steps* to look beneath the surface and examine the long history of Norwich University. In many ways, it mirrors the complex interrelationships between America and its military. Also, Norwich has had a much more progressive bent as post-secondary education than you might imagine. Take a look.

Really, I developed my opposition to the Vietnam War while at Norwich and, one of my best guides on that journey was a commissioned Army officer who fought there. Even those days, I have concluded that our many numbers-of-kill rate warfare have not been led by the military but by civilians who, while surrounding themselves with soldiers on prep, have neither means than soldiers nor experienced the horror of combat. More than a few names — Republicans and Democrats, past and present — come to mind.

Again, thanks for your corrections and for your invitation to add my perspective.

Ernie Post
EDDIE

DAIRY DEBTS

Maybe I didn't mention this to Kirk Karlsen when we spoke about "Passing on the Pasture" [December 16], but an equally huge challenge to the younger generation purchase a share of the farm is how their parents can exit with any equity to use for retirement. Lots of folks lost retirement funds when the stock market dropped. But Vermont's dairy farmers have had to become against their equity — the same funds they planned to have for some retirement security. They have replaced that equity with debt and have seen the value of retaining equity in cows, land and equipment drop. Cows are worth less than half of what they were worth a year ago. Many [farmers] will never be able to pay back the additional debt without making more cows or selling out, both of which would likely forbid a younger family member taking over. The younger generation do not have the cash to buy their way into the farm operation, and the parents can't sell what ever equity they have to the younger generation because the farm likely can't cash flow any more debt.

Bob Parsons
RD 1, BURLINGTON

Parsons is an agricultural economist at the UVM Ag Extension Program.

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Every one of us has a friend who is scheduled up to her nose in fun things. One afternoon, it's a game of one on one basketball followed by a quick hike in the woods. The next morning, it's a couple of sets of tennis capped off by a hot hockey game.

I have a friend like this. I'll call her Shannon Johnson. Shannon's season in life is to have fun—the pros, casual and not kind of far from physical pursuits.

Shannon's most favorite fun activity is skiing. And in the winter, if you want to get any free time with her, you better be willing to get lost on the slopes.

So when her guide told Shannon to show me the other side of Sugarbush, the side that was about skiing and less about après, or traditional dollar construction plans? Shannon has been a season pass holder there for four years, but she's been skiing the "back" much longer than that.

Shannon loves Sugarbush for its "and, less amount of options." On this holiday, only season day fewer than half the 111 trails were open, but that was plenty.

We began the day with an easy run down the easiest Lower Jaws. The trail was covered in spring-like snow—wet, slushy and slick as a freshly wound Burn. We passed for a minute at the intersection with Organogrinder to let our housing volunteer out. Oh, I wanted to let my housing volunteer out Shannon, a tale often is better alone than any 39-year-old ought to be, would patiently and pretended to stretch out a bluish hot back.

THE 20/20 CHALLENGE

ONE SNOWGRINDER'S QUEST TO HIT 20 VERMONT RESORTS IN 20 WEEKS

On the next run, Shannon took me on a detour to the Haverhill Gate Triple Lift. At this point, my legs felt like someone had smacked them in a blunt force. The heavy snow was like glue to ride through. Luckily, Shannon is a nurse at Fletcher Allen Health Care and could take care of me in the event my legs grew out and amputated.

The lift ride to the top of 3955 feet Lincoln Peak was an exercise in serenity. As we ascended, the clouds became thicker, shrouding the chair in frost. Visibility was nil. The only noise came from the whirring of the lift mechanism. That I couldn't see where we would disembark was unsettling.

The summit of Lincoln Peak is partially deserted compared with other areas of the resort. This is due to the difficulty of the descent. Jaws, an intermediate groomer and Sugarbush's first trail, provides the easiest way down, if you're a skier and have a good build-up. The main route to the bottom—Parade, Ripcord or Organogrinder—are all steep runs at the black and of the trail identifies non-spectators.

This, I learn, is why Shannon loves this section of Sugarbush. Despite being the most scenic of my friends, she wants nothing more than a ski area all to herself and, of

course, her pals. "The total advantage of skiing here is you can get away from every one," Shannon said. Any Lincoln Peak, or Carleton Peak next door with its double black diamonds, leaving his streamers from the summit, one feels the relative solitude.

After a few more runs, the snow had begun to melt off, and half patches appeared on the trails. This was a clear indication to Shannon that it was time to end my her other life's person doghouse. The day ended with a trip to Windsor's Big Picture Theater & Café for its Very Small Dogs, which made it a must visit on my trip back from Sugarbush. Before I could finish my second doghouse, the snow had descended on. The season is clearly powered by doghouses.

Three down, 17 to go. ☺

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THE 20/20 PROGRESS REPORT

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Bain Creek	Jay Peak	Mount Snow	✓ Stowe
Barton Valley	✓ Killington - 12/06	Northeast Slopes	✓ Stratton
Bransley	Mad River Glen	Okemo Mountain Resort	✓ Sugarbush - 12/22
Bruce Mountain	Moggy Mountain	Peter Mountain	✓ Suicide Six

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On a recent Saturday morning, Phoenix Books & Café bustled with customers anticipating book readings by authors Tracy Campbell Pearson and Liz Welch both slated to appear that day. Bookworms can find a steady upcall of reasons to linger inside the store: its co-owner's gourmet pastries, Melissa Perkins and Torrey Fowler. A jet-set drink and snacks stand offers coffee, milkshakes, smoothies, and an array of lunch options and baked goods. Black leather armchairs placed throughout the space invite leisurely page flipping. And, of course, sprawling stacks of books tempt kids' fare, recommended picks, the works of Vermont authors and more.

"Running a bookstore is a persistent learning experience," says Orlando. "There are a lot of moments every day." That's why a dedication to frequent author appearances, Phoenix has a featured regular open mic nights and reading circles. Shoppers will find cards, journals and calendars on display, as well as copious hard- and softcovers. Lots of opportunities for a-be moments and discoveries.

CAROLYN POZ



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Guiding Gifts

Three new books for voyaging through Vermont

BY SARAH TURF

I like to read, but I don't like to read outdoor books very much—which is probably how my husband and I ended up completely lost in a canoe on the Lamoille River one summer. Had we bothered to actually read the guide book a friend had given us, we would have known that we needed to shuttle back to our starting point. And we probably would have avoided the panic, the hunger, the broken paddle and the embarrassing hole-kids back to our car (though, I must say, those hamburgers at Joe's Shack Bar in Jericho have never tasted better).

As it turns out, determination to be a better recreational reader that I agreed to check out three 2009 issues about human-powered travel around the state. At first, *The Walker's Guide to Vermont: Routes for Hikers, Bicyclists or Rafters* (published by the Green Mountains Club in June) seemed like precisely the wrong book with which to start killing my readership. With all the great hiking in this state, who needs a book about walking?

Well, me, for one. With two toddlers who can barely climb into the car, let alone up 4000-foot mountains, my forays to the summit of Mount Abraham and Mount Mansfield have been put on hold for a while. (Yes, there are backpacks, but my husband and I nearly from our daughter's feet off when we hiked up Camel's Hump without reading, e.g., a weather report one October.)

And I know there are thousands of other Vermonters who don't have the time, energy, ability or desire to conquer high peaks. Instead, one could bag, say, the Big Roundbark Trail, a half-mile trek through the Westmore Town Forest. Or the 0.7-mile meander to the Falls of Lure. Or the 1.5-mile walk through Looping Springs/Glenn's Horseshoe Park.

The Walker's Guide provides information on wheelchair- and stroller-accessible trails, old carriage roads, urban thoroughfares such as Burlington's Recreation Path, and agricultural access points, including Shepherds Farms and

Woodstock's Bellows Falls. The trivia is as interesting as the trailblazes, the perspective reader can take, for example, that black goat trails abound in Brattleboro, and that Chapman Hill was once Middlebury College's ski slope. With easy-to-follow maps, inspiring photos, pointers to portable toilets and just the right number of

pages (148) to stuff in a back pocket for the back-packer, the new guidebook is just about the second first step a Green Mountain State walker can take.

Those seeking a little more altitude may prefer *A Century in the Mountains: Celebrating Vermont's Long Trail* (also published by the Green Mountains Club).

Trying to track it is your Program, pocket would be a back-packer's mistake, this is a back-packer's guidebook for serious hikers and somewhat less-than-serious hikers. And, unlike a guidebook that tries to get you going in the right direction, *A Century in the Mountains* could whisk you over the most enthusiastic mountaineers into a long, long reading session on the couch.

From the opening spread of Mount Mansfield's golden, and its headliner stresses, connect to the first shot of the western view from Camel's Hump in the fall, the photos promise what needs to arise the writer (Though images of a frayed Mount Abraham and Green Mountains Club founder James Paddock Taylor on a winter hike are reminders that the mountains are pretty new, note, too.) Photographers include Brian Meier, Job Wallace Brodner and Alden Pellet, who share their still alongside shots from the GMC archives of 1970s Long Trail campers, the 1970s

"brown years" of hiking and the new wheelchair-accessible trail at Thundersburg Falls in Killington.

For the real story of *A Century in the Mountains* is how the Long Trail came to be, as told by Tom Steffen and other contributors. During the Champlain Quadracentennial festivities last July, participants traveled to The Roots and other lands on the Burlington Waterfront and checked out an Alameda encampment inside RCHD. But in July 1908,

at the book's inception, history buffs celebrated the successful by gathering in City Hall Park and listening to President Taft and other officials, one of whom urged Vermonters to "keep



open the mountains, and allow no one to deter pedestrians from climbing to their peaks and wandering along their slopes."

By the following March, plans for the Long Trail were in the works. And, as the GMC president explains in *A Century in the Mountains*, the trail has helped "revitalize" the state's Vermonters' loyalty to the long footpaths tracing the Green Mountains' spine. He notes, "Today people do not even more seldom find some of our other twentieth-century stunts, such as single spruce, dairy farms,

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colorful fall foliage and old houses" As Bill McKibben writes in the book's foreword, "The Long Trail has helped maintain the larger work of Vermont environmentalists, gives us a place to remember why we're fighting and what the stakes really are."

Much the same could be said of Luke Champlain: A *Kapoor's Guide to Lake Champlain: Exploring the New York, Vermont & Quebec Shores*, a 128-page book by Cathy Frank of South Burlington and Margy Holden of Shelburne (Black Dome Press, Lehigh) is a homage to Samuel de Champlain, and it's rich with history and environmental insights.

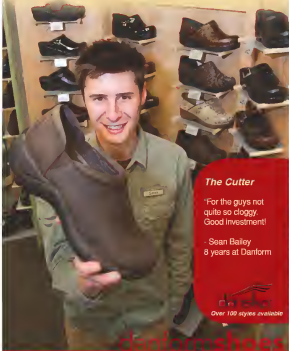
The lively descriptions of 58 different routes are likely to have you paddling to ply Lake Champlain's waters. Frank and Holden, who both have homes in the Champlain Islands, have looked at all the places they write about, and their first-person accounts are entertaining, if not always enlightening. Take, for example, the report on Missisquoi Bay, which the women admit they "did not look forward to paddling," owing to the greenish algae bloom and earlier border crossing directions. But 23 miles, a yellow caution plane and some "trend music" later, Frank and Holden are calling the area "a wonderful place where water and land blend and wild things are protected."

Personally, the duo's writing can seem a bit uneasy and self-righteous, a section on "Broad Lake Boat" aka the Burlington area, fusses over the boat "illegally pumping" from the cliffs at Red Rocks Park and a cigarette boat that gets 4 miles to the gulfers. But I loved learning about some lake landmarks (Jasper Island, the Shelburne shore state) that have long aroused my curiosity during my own time on the water. And I'm already looking forward to weather warm enough to paddle the 12-mile Knight and Butterfield route that Frank and Holden describe. For pretty sure A *Kapoor's Guide* will keep me out of trouble. ☺

1 *The Walker's Guide to Vermont: Hikes for Half an Hour or Half a Day*, edited by Mary Lou Rorer, Green Mountain Club, 248 pages, \$24.95

A Century in the Mountains: Celebrating Vermont's Long Trail, edited by Tom Staples, foreword by Bill McKibben, Green Mountains Club, 192 pages, \$26.95

A Kapoor's Guide to Lake Champlain: Exploring the New York, Vermont & Quebec Shores by Cathy Frank and Margy Holden, Black Dome Press, 128 pages, \$27.95



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Book-Group Therapy

Reading alone? The Vermont Humanities Council makes it social

BY ALICE LEVITT

On a recent Saturday afternoon, the Vermont Memorial Library in Jeffersonville is closed to the public, but inside it's bustling with activity. As they unpack boxes made here cheese and pastries, an older couple chatter about how their elderly male's eating habits have changed since he lost his teeth. Natalie (last name withheld by request), a petite 67-year-old with a Clara Bow bob, describes the classical concert in which she and a friend played earlier that day. The group's organizer, April Tuck, is out with the flu. "No buses for April!" jokes one woman.

Authors get a taste of several complaints about the loose bindings of the books they've been reading. Phyllis, Linda Blund, dressed in a flowing snowflake-print skirt and matching red turtleneck, calls the Middle Eastern Voices book group to order. The eight assembled members launch into a discussion of Tayeb Salhi's *Season of Migration to the North*.

Two days later, in St Albans, 21 members of White Rabbit settle into the retirement facility's cozy Harbison hall, looking for their own current book series, When Cultures Meet: First Contact between the Natives and Europeans in "New France" and the Lake Champlain Basin. One woman stretches a wordplay as she adds her two cents to the discussion. Another appears to be doing so on a coach—until she pipes up to share her observations on the desecration of European remains in the Americas.

Here these two quite different groups of Vermonters spontaneously chosen to educate themselves on weighty topics such as New World colonization and male identity in the Middle East? Not quite.

That is, they have chosen—but not unpremeditated. The Vermont and White Rabbit group therapy are part of the Vermont Humanities Council Reading and Discussion program, which oversees as many as 200 such groups around the state. In 2008, the VHC celebrated the 30 years since it first partnered with the Rutland Free Library to introduce a scholar-led discussion group. According to director Peter Gilbert, the first series, in 1978, had the theme "Women in Literature"

and attracted 110 readers. The following year, a group called Women's Work in and Outside the Home ended up with 220 members at the single library.

Gilbert says that impressive turnout helped the council spearhead a national movement of similar reading programs. "Every state has it in its own way now," he notes.

In Vermont, dozens of nonprofit groups—mostly libraries—choose from among 64 series of four to six books, or one of 37 individual books. With only about 25 copies of each title available to loan, sometimes readers have to settle for their second choice. For example, the Vermont group had chosen *Monsieur Momo* before ending up with *Middle Eastern Voices*.

When a group is finished with its series, the members feed the books back to the humanities council or

I WANT TO HEAR WHAT SUZY HAS TO SAY ABOUT THE BLACK MALE PENIS.

LINDA BLUND, VHC SCHOLAR

drop them off at the Montpelier office. So it might not be long before the Jeffersonville readers can sink their teeth into Dave Eggers' 2000 memoir *A Heartbreaking Work of Staggering Genius*.

Each organization pays the VHC \$75 per session, which gets it a book for every reader in the group, along with professional materials and a "scholar" to facilitate. This is usually an author or retired college professor, though Elizabeth Jay Green has also led some discussions.

In the spirit of inclusiveness, VHC provides audiobooks for the vision impaired, and will even record one if a commercial version doesn't exist for a chosen title. Gilbert says there have been no requests for Braille books, but the council would provide them should the circumstances arise.

The VHC book group model has expanded from libraries to hospitals, where employees meet to discuss health-care-themed novels, and to prison programs that encourage literacy. Asked if the

latter offer a series known as "Beverage" to inmates, Gilbert responds with a chuckle. "No, that would probably be a bad idea."

Scholars are paid \$125 per group meeting—not much, considering the preparation that Blund, for one, puts into her presentations. If the author of the group's current book is still alive, Blund makes every effort to find out what he or she would like the discussion to focus on. In the case of *Season of Migration to the North*, since Salhi passed away this year, Blund is focusing instead on gathering input from his friends and researching his native Sudan.

As a VHC scholar, Blund, who's also an author, teacher and former library agent, is tasked with ensuring everyone has a voice in the book discussions. That means fielding less than enthusiastic reactions, too. Before starting to read *Season of Migration to the North*, Blund admits, she had feared *Middle Eastern Voices* was a bad idea. Following disheartening experiences with racialized racism in South American societies from

a previous series, she says she was gun shy about one Anglophone author.

"You've heard a lot of the books, Natalie, and I love it when you do." Blund says with a smile. "I think that's why we're reading them, so we don't have things before we read them."

It's hard to say whether Blund's "Don't judge a book by its cover" life lesson is making an OJ course, book group participants always judge a series by its title—in Jeffersonville, *Middle Eastern Voices* was chosen by a vote open to all community members, whether they planned to come or not.

To take part, all people have to do is show up. But those who don't may still be curious about the communal read. "We're actually had people who never participated come in and ask how we like the series," says Tuck, director of human resources at Maple Hospital in Montpelier. Tuck reads one issue



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Bivalve Job

Book review: *The Living Shore: Rediscovering a Lost World*

BY ELISABETH CREAN

A particularly delicious appetizer: frequently launches a memorable meal. But not often does an exceptional book devour entire months of research and reflection that culminate in a fascinating book. Colin author Rowan Jacobsen knows that he "fell in love with one tiny oyster in particular" while traveling and testing for his 2007 cookbook, *A Geography of Oysters: The Connoisseur's Guide to Oyster Eating in North America*. Of the hundreds of varieties he sampled, Jacobsen found that the Olympia, or Oly (Olympia with "holy"), has a "sappy, rounded mushroom sweetness... unlike anything else in the world."

The Oly once "scattered here" along the West Coast, "as far north as Sitka, Alaska, and as far south as Panama," Jacobsen explains. By the mid-20th century, however, the known habitat for the petite-fleshed bivalve shrank to "a few miles in southern Puget Sound" in northwest Washington State. The Oly's peril inspired Jacobsen's latest book, *The Living Shore: Rediscovering a Lost World*, a remarkable gem of environmental contemplation. The palate-pleasing oyster promises tasty food for thought.

"A few shells in the market or land sale could make it virtually impossible to interact with this oyster again," Jacobsen worries. His tight focus on the bivalve's predicament becomes a window to a panorama of larger issues. By examining the Oly's history on our coast, he explores the possibilities for protecting or even erasing its habitat, the lost oyster's former home topics such as coastal ecology, species preservation and sustainable aquaculture.



Rowan Jacobsen

long to export? The playful creature, just back from the brink of extinction, "seems more charming than Paul Newman." But they're also potential enemies to the aquaculture's clammy quarry. "Twenty-pound vessels that can eat up to twenty pounds of shellfish a day" if the oysters have found the Oly, they may have destroyed them.

Will the researchers find the oyster? Jacobsen journalists blends with suspenseful storytelling as the author digresses from his narrative of the journey to explore other topics: oystercology, BPA regulation, even the role of bivalves in human evolution. These intriguing detours connect the oyster's market's destiny with the Pacific Northwest's past and its future, as well as highlighting the importance of oysters to marine ecosystems worldwide.

A key theme is the surprisingly important role of oysters in Native American history. Although seldom in the iconic seafood traditionally associated with Pacific Northwest tribes, giant shell mounds (middens) testify to the significance of clams and oysters in their diet. Shellfish provided "the lean glutamine protein, the low carb of 1000 B.C." In fact, some tribes did more than just gather the sea's bounty. They farmed it, creating terraced "oyster gardens" on beaches and building walls of fish traps at the mouths of rivers.

The abundance of this environment leads Jacobsen to propose, and elegantly defend, a coastal theory of American continental settlement. The idea, quietly weaving scientific, historical and archaeological evidence since the early 1980s, traces out the established model: across the Bering land bridge — "instead of dragging Greenland and the tundra through the Arctic in pursuit of great mammals," writes Jacobsen, "you just land there and all of your gear is a bale of hay — the remains of the Stone Age — and follow — the key highway! — the trail of plentiful resources cradling the

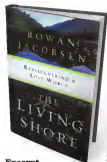
A KEY THEME IS THE SURPRISINGLY IMPORTANT ROLE OF OYSTERS IN NATIVE AMERICAN HISTORY.

Coastal trade while writing *A Geography of Oysters* inspired Jacobsen's next abroad a unique research expedition. In the mid 1990s, a Canadian marine biologist mapping a remote part of British Columbia accidentally stumbled on bays and estuaries filled with Oly. In July 2008, Jacobsen joined eight oystercultivators and sojourners on a return voyage to Noctua Island, off Vancouver Island's Pacific coast. Their mission: to discover if the thriving Oly beds "still existed, and learn why they got so good."

Jacobsen recounts the working trip — through isolated forests, to sequestered beaches and coves — in lush detail. A sea otter that approaches the boat has "a face like a woman and mischievous

The Living Shore: Rediscovering a Lost World by Rowan Jacobsen
December 10 pages, \$20

Get a comment? Contact Elisabeth
Crean at elizabeth@washingtonpost.com.



Excerpt from *The Living Shore*

On January 24, 1848, on the banks of the American River in California's Sierra Nevada, an event took place that forever changed the Glenside's fortunes. . . . At the time, San Francisco was a two-bit port of perhaps a thousand people. . . . But by the end of the following year more than a hundred thousand forty-niners had descended on San Francisco and the hills beyond, and the city population swelled to nearly thirty thousand. A few of the lucky ones found gold. And a few of the clever ones realized that the easy money was not hiding in the hills but justly appearing and closing its shells all around San Francisco Bay.

For the forty-niners who struck rich, gold celebrations were obligatory. San Francisco had plenty of beer to fuel these celebrations, but very few foods

worthy of marking such an event, even not a fancy feast. It was barely a town at all. Fortunately, its immense bay possessed billions of oysters: the perfect celebration food. New Yorkers always celebrated with oysters. Russians always celebrated with oysters. And if it was good enough for them . . . Oysters and champagne for all my friends and their friends too! In fact, oysters and champagne abound!

Oysters sometimes went for a dollar apiece in 1850 San Francisco. There was probably more value in the boys' beavers than in the shells. One. A few enterprising locals made a killing gathering the wild oysters. Perhaps there were even accidental killings. — San Francisco was virtually blank at the time. Oystermen staked their claims to sections of tide flats in the Sausalito area and quickly lined them off to discourage poachers. But the forces could do nothing about the silt already pouring out of the Sierra Nevada from hydraulic mining operations, which used high pressure hoses to liquify hillsides, and the oyster farmers were forced to move their yards to the less disturbed south bay. That bought them only a little time, because oystermen are slow-growing species, taking five years to reach what is euphemistically referred to as market size, which in the case of Olympia still means it takes two thousand to make a gallon of mussels (compared to two hundred for other species). A determined miner could down five hundred in a sitting. Demand for outpiped supply and within a few short years San Francisco Bay was stripped clean of its living sea of oysters.

San Francisco continued to boom and to eat. The city's still hungry girth narrowed and the oyster community vaporized as if a ray gun were strafing the coast.

circumstances — massive over harvesting and environmental destruction — to decimate the once plentiful Olyps (See excerpt above). Discovering that these oysters fed Vancouver Island's native tribes for centuries, and survive there still, gives Jacobsen hope that they will make successful candidates for modern sustainable aquaculture. Consuming them — responsibly — augurs the Olyps.

In *The Living Shore*, rowan meets seafood, and the delicious little by-value turns out to have a lot to teach. Jacobsen's engaging meditation concepts show lessons eloquently. ©

Pacific fish. Shellfish are the featured menu items on its "ocean raw bar."

Native Americans used those resources unceasingly without endangering them, which shows the resilience of species to their indigenous environments. Could the old way of living with now threatened plants and animals be the new way of saving them? Jacobsen writes "to see change under way in the conservation world." The current focus is on "reestablishing a productive coexistence of people and natural systems, rather than enforcing a separation." It took a counterplastic combination of

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WINTER READING

Self-Published in the 802

A surprising variety of Vermonters
put themselves in print in 2009

BY MARGOT HARRISON

Four years ago, I wrote a *Berm* Days story based on a startling statistic: According to a Jenkins Group survey from 2002, 61 per cent of Americans believe they "ought have a book in [them]."

Actually, maybe that's not so surprising. Storytellers had an experience or a brainstorm they feel is worth recording in print. What is surprising is that so many of them are doing it. And when they can't persuade a commercial publisher to put out their manuscript, they're taking advantage of new technology to do it themselves.

I know this first hand, because here at the paper's office we receive at least an 10 to 15 books and e-mailed announcements of books per week. Many of these mailings come from companies such as iWriteNow and iLibris, which send electronic press releases to newspapers all over the country as part of their promise to print and market their clients' books — for a fee. Others come from traditional publishers, small and large — the kind that don't charge their authors but do reject most manuscripts submitted to them.

And still other free books come from enterprising local authors who have taken one of the many possible routes to true "self-publishing." Some have formed their own companies, registered their copyrights, designed their own covers and hired a local printer. Others

have put themselves in print with the help of a service such as Lulu.com or the Ragstone Book Machine available at Manchester Center's Northshire Bookstore (1041 Main, at St. Johnsbury's Border & Colburn).

Occupies a time, newspaper simply ignored self-published books. But that's harder to do in a world where traditional publishers are cutting their costs and their lists — sending some fellow authors back to the drawing board [the subtitle on three Vermont writers who've moved from traditional to self-published to self-publishing.] No longer can one assume (if one ever could) that "good stuff finds a publisher." In my experience, the quality of self-published books varies widely — from "I wouldn't be surprised to see this on a library shelf" to "No one else can spell 'chuck'." Most fall in between.

Here's the bottom line: Given that their authors seem to increase each year, we have neither the time nor the space to review all the books self-published in Vermont. Not even just the good ones. (We have to pass over a list of traditionally published volumes, too.) But that doesn't mean we don't appreciate receiving them. When I leaf through these books, I'm fascinated by the sheer range of issues that inspire people to write everything from heartfelt personal memoirs to trippy sci-fi novels.

The state's self-published vintage as

tell us something about how Vermonters see themselves. Not surprisingly, quite a few of these works chronicle the North Country of years. But the singular inspection are just as interesting: *Tale Joe Rendleman*, the retired Hemlock Security agent who wrote a technical thriller in which scientists find out TV causes cancer. Or *Hose Warriner* of Sudbury, whose *The DeadBook* is less a "book" than a unique multimedia experience.

We covered both those authors last year. But even so, we could never cover every self-published book in Vermont. So we've selected a 2009 crop of books we received as 2009, organized by genre. These should be read as loose descriptions, not reviews — in most cases, I admit, I haven't.

A few more disclosures: If you're a local who sent us your book or book announcement this year and it didn't end up here, drop me a line. I'll try to cover it in an upcoming "State of the Art" roundup.

There are many forms of independent or nontraditional publishing. For our purposes here, a self-published book is one the author either produced himself, or paid a company or service to publish. When a publishing company (of whatever kind) is specified on the jacket, I've included it.

Finally, I want to stress that, in this day and age, no one should be embarrassed about self-publishing. Even if you write the 21st-century equivalent of *Moby Dick*, you can't guarantee that big-time New York editors will persuade their marketing department to take a chance on a future classic that's likely to sell at one thousandth the rate of, say, a *Peter Rabbit* memoir.

In short, if you can write a book and get it in somebody's hands (or on their computer screen), have power to your



PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFFREY BROWN



Science Fiction

Mike Luoma, *After Earth* The former *Los Angeles DJ* at WLOS and *The Post* puts real pages like school's business, though they aren't necessarily "pages." You can get his futuristic Western American trilogy and this new sequel as podcasts, a book, a Kindle or e-inkless device, and a plain old print. While he may not sell as many books as Dan Brown, Luoma is likely to continue his adventure stories with outcasts of organized religion. His backlist includes a graphic novel called *Holy War* or... *But Robert?* and *The Ash Giant*. Also set this year is another graphic novel, *Justified*. Luoma's *Evolution*, read this at downtownradio.com.

Chris Minkley, *The Reincarnation* This novel from the Burlington resident and *Seventh Generation* web editor takes place "in an environmentally devastated future where The Medical Church of America has real medicine and religion, with reincarnation as the backbone and the soul as heart man." When one man returns to life after years in extreme front, he finds himself sharing a soul with someone else. It has a great first sentence — "David volunteered to be murdered" — and is read on Amazon and Audi.

GIVING DIY A TRY: LOCAL AUTHORS WHO'VE DONE IT BOTH WAYS

We just read the new book *After Earth* by Mike Luoma, and we're immediately *Reincarnated*. In one piece, Luoma has been featured by *Booked* and in *New York Times*. He's got things in his latest to read — *Thyri* (Penguin), *Cherry* (Corgi), *Reincarnation* — in his own words, he's got a new novel, the *Champion* (Dell) that's going to be out. Who else is doing it?

John F. Thompson Getting in place and up on the ground, he's a writer of a novel, *Reincarnation*, and a series of novels, *Reincarnation* (Bantam). If you go up in the 1980s, you probably remember Thompson's *The Reincarnation* of George. See a *Reincarnation* in which parents and their children go to a rock concert (in the 1980s) — to have their children murdered. Thompson's old enough to be his readers' great-grandfather — he was born in 1927 — but he hasn't lost any of his sense.

After 15 novels he's lost one, but he's still published a short, but fairly solid, of the *Reincarnation* series. In the story told in his latest, *Thyri* (Corgi), he's got a new novel, *Cherry* (Corgi), and a series of novels, *Reincarnation* (Bantam). If you go up in the 1980s, you probably remember Thompson's *The Reincarnation* of George. See a *Reincarnation* in which parents and their children go to a rock concert (in the 1980s) — to have their children murdered. Thompson's old enough to be his readers' great-grandfather — he was born in 1927 — but he hasn't lost any of his sense.

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Self-Published



Mystery

John M. Wilbur, *Shadow on a Lost Dog Trail* (Dog Ear Publishing, Indianapolis) The author is a retired Burlington schoolteacher with a knack for FR. His wheelman, set in the Northeast Kingdom in 1982, has drawn raves on sites such as Mysticmystery.com. The plot setup: Ringle parents Reilly and Adele are in love. But when his ex-wife is brutally murdered, they both have to turn down love to prove he didn't off her to resolve a custody dispute. www.dogearpublishing.com.



Miscellaneous Fiction and Poetry

Ken Spady, *Beyond the Citadel and Good Looking Male and Other Stories* (AuthorHouse) This Arctic resident has been a journalist for Norway, an actor, a stockbroker and a long distance labor. His novel *Beyond the Citadel* takes

to the heart of Manhattan in 1972, where the protagonist "believed he forever met superior, creative and single women he could help." One of these women is a broadcaster with some rough sexual tastes. Spady's laconic literary prose is rich in period details. There are two more novels, *Ghost Dance* and *Monsters Girl, one on Amazon*.

Dave Donebue, *Jumping Goodbye to Part Dancer High, an Ardenbrook Novel of the Sixties*

Chuck Gibson, *Seven Storms, A Ardenbrook Novel* (iBooks)

Joeth Bell, Mary Rendell, Selin Michael Courtney, Estaban Falcón and Dave Donebue, *Wake Up Call*
Mary L. Rendell, Chuck Gibson, Joeth Bell, Mary, Jean Frost and Cathy S. McDowell, *Gold Earth Wanderers and Other Ardenbrook Writings: Works of Prose and Poetry*

All these are from *Re Press*, a small literary collective with roots in the Ardenbrooks that's currently based in South Burlington. Its founder Donebue calls *Wake Up Call* a "new best" poetry anthology that's a "magical journey line anytime" of Burlington, and he notes that the collective plans to air "radio poems" on WCAH/Channel 31 in the near future. More at rebooks.org/~rebooks.

Richard Hershby Jr., *Agua* (Star Chamber Press, Burlington) In 1992, an archeologist discovers a 4000-year-old glyph manuscript on Yuma papyrus. He spends the next 28 years translating what "appears to be an historical record of a civilization here on earth, a civilization that existed in the past and ended under tragic circumstances." The ancient text reveals the cure of this deftly written original. Indiana Jones meets Wilbur meets the *Colossus*. *Prequel*? Make up your own mind. The first three chapters are free at rebooks.org/~rebooks.

Ruth Penner, *Ordinary Magic* (Bar Nothing Books, Montpelier) The grand daughter of renowned author Maxwell Perkins, Penner started her own company to publish her first novel, *The Simple Life* (2008). I read all 480 odd pages. Her new novel, handsomely produced hardcover illustrated with her own photos, promises more of the same sharp, witty observation of day to day life in rural Vermont's few decades ago. Available on Amazon, this might make a great book club pairing with Jim DeHogge's *The Family Paws* (see sidebar).



Essays and Memoirs

Paul Lefebvre, *Forester Clerk: Essays from Vermont's Upper Kingdom* (Back Pond Books, Island Pond) This collection of unknown Lefebvre wrote for *Burlington newspaper The Chronicle* is "part memoir, part history, part tale and myth" the author says in his intro. More dryly humorous than following the essays start with such titles ("The high school girl who made butter on my back porch has died") and spin them into tales of personal and collective history. Howard Peak Maslow wrote that the book "reaffirmed for me why I've lived in the Kingdom for upward of half a century." To buy it, email paul@burlingtonchronicle.com.

Sandra H. Lovejoy, *Under a Fig Tree: A Family History* Vol. 1 (Greenleaf Press) The author, a Randolph PR consultant, painstakingly researched the Swanton roots of her mother's husband family to produce this book, which Tom Skyles recently praised on VFR. Besides a mail genealogical immigrant story, it offers plenty of family photos and Old Country recipes such as "Mama's Casserole" On Amazon.

Mr. Layne/Levin, *Cathy, My Memories About the Human Being: Life and Its Consequences* (Self) An electrical engineer born in Swanton and educated at the University of Vermont presents his philosophically informed views of the history and future of Africa, along with a critique of enduring racism in Canada and the US. In America, he writes, "Because factors of race and emotional hysteria, they become the substrate for everything!" On Amazon.

Wayne Harrison, *From the Top: This Burlington area retiree had a long and distinguished acting career in Detroit, New York and San Francisco, in the 1960s, he moved with The Ramones, "I have never written a book before," he wrote readers in a preface before "Self Publishing."* "I have paid more taxes and have never even read a return book. I will certainly never write another book.

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If you can see why I thought it unlikely that I would ever find a publisher for this book! That reader is exactly what makes *From the Top* a surprisingly addictive read. Among other things, it's a moving tale of blizzards' struggles to parent an autistic daughter, and a trove of anecdotes about famous people he happened to meet, from John Travolta to Don Peck. Find it at wrayworld.org.com.



Miscellaneous Nonfiction

Robert Selenky, *Tales of Perverse Adventure: Uncommon in a Boston Children's Shelter* (Glennco). The Marshfield clinical psychologist writes about his encounters with troubled young people he met at a St. Francisburg shelter that, he says, offers a "harsh and insensitive" model for "preparing children to create and live in a democracy." On Amazon.

Robert Buckeye, *Left and Quaint: A Book 5: The Lives of Viola White and Ours* (Arcadia Publishing, 2001, Middlebury). Retired after more than three decades as Middlebury College's Abernethy Curator of American Literature, Buckeye has published extensively in literary and academic journals, and he's been quietly producing chapbooks, both fiction and nonfiction. In the latter category, Buckeye's Quarry Books series of mini biographies is "intended to reclaim Vermonters who time has buried less than overlooked" — such as Viola White (1890-1981), a poet, nature writer, Middlebury librarian and would-be radical. Far from a straightforward, Buckeye's essay on White's life — or lives, many of them ending in frustration — is a work of both poetry and empathy. For purchasing information, go to arcadiapress.com ☐

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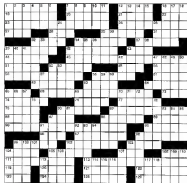
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Johnson State College is a dynamic liberal arts college located in northern Vermont. The Fine and Performing Arts Department is a leader in quality and accomplishment in music and the arts, seeks a full-time faculty member with a broad range of industry and academic experience and interests. The position will involve teaching upper and lower level digital media courses (lower and non-credit) and 3D design in Studio Art Courses, some both in-person and hybrid. The successful candidate will develop curriculum and course content in digital art and design, teach and supervise students in their digital art and design projects through teaching and service in a college-wide commitment to equity and engaging student success.

The successful candidate for the position will possess an MFA in digital media and a strong commitment to excellence in undergraduate teaching in digital media as one or more of the following skills: graphic design, digital media and/or video, sound editing and/or animation. Candidate must possess a good working knowledge of Photoshop, Illustrator, InDesign, Dreamweaver, Flash and Final Cut Pro. Should be familiar with emerging technology, and be able to incorporate new technology into the classroom. An arts teacher/manager.

Applications will be reviewed beginning January 15, 2016 and continue until the position is filled. Send letter of intent, including qualifications, statement of teaching philosophy, curriculum vitae, graduate transcript, 3 letters of professional references (highly recommended), resume (no more than 25 samples of artwork), a completed 256 application (available at www.jscc.edu/employment) and three letters of reference to: johnsonstatecollege.edu or Johnson State College Human Resources Office, Attn: Stephanie Jello, at Miller Chase at South Campus, 337 College Hill, Johnson Vermont, 05465-0000.

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Johnson State College may have numerous part-time teaching assignments in biological, health, and environmental science for the spring 2016 semester.

BIO 1219 Introduction to Biology

BIO 1220 Environmental Interpretation

BIO 1230 National Parks and Wilderness Management

ARTS 4040 Contemporary American Art: Visual Arts and Writing

Minimum qualifications: Master's degree in the appropriate academic discipline, teaching experience is preferred.

Applications will be accepted until the positions are filled. Send a completed 50 job application (with salary and benefits history and cover letter) to johnsonstatecollege.edu or to Human Resources Office, Johnson State College, 337 College Hill, Johnson, Vermont 05465-0000.

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needed. Must have at least 2 years management and packaging experience. Also must lift, shipping and receiving experience. Must be able to follow directions, be detail oriented, organized and able to multitask. We need a team player with initiative who is able to work independently. Must be physically fit and able to lift over 50 lbs.

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South Burlington School District

Long Term Substitute Science Teacher - South Burlington High School, 10 FTE, Tentative Dates 2/22/18 through 6/16/19
Qualified candidate will have Vermont Teacher License with a High School Science Teacher endorsement, and demonstrate ability to work collaboratively in a team environment.

Long Term Substitute Social Studies Teacher - South Burlington High School, 10 FTE, Tentative Dates 2/22/18 through 6/16/19
Qualified Candidate will have Vermont Teacher License with a High School Social Studies Teacher endorsement and demonstrate ability to work collaboratively in a team environment.

These positions will remain open until filled. Candidates may forward their resumes and their current resume to:

Deane Klemm, Human Resources Department, South Burlington School District, 950 Deane Street, South Burlington, VT 05403, or apply at www.sbschools.org EOE

Graphic Design and Media Specialist

Responsibilities: This part-time position (35 hours/week) provides graphic design and communications support to the management and staff of the Lake Champlain Regional Chamber of Commerce and the Greater Burlington Industries Corporation (GBIC). A successful candidate will be able to manage multiple priorities, negotiate between conflicting details in processes and maintain an evolving creative approach to meeting Chamber projects. Technical skill and solid experience in graphic design is most exciting experience with developing publishing. Position will also be responsible for some public relations work, and good writing skills are key. The specialist will need to work independently with staff and also provide input to their own decisions. Patience, creativity and a good sense of humor are keys to success.

Requirements: Must be comfortable in a PC environment with high proficiency in Adobe Creative Suite, particularly InDesign and Photoshop. Please submit resume and cover letter to:

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30 Main Street
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Ann, Michelle Leach
Fax: 802-663-4330
michelle@vccomm.org



ARD Inc., (www.ardinc.com), an international consulting services firm, has two professional openings at our corporate headquarters located in downtown Burlington. We are seeking quality candidates to consider for the following positions within the Business Office of our firm. For comprehensive position descriptions please visit our website at www.ardinc.com/careers.asp

BUDGET ANALYST

The Budget Analyst works under the general direction and supervision of the Controller. The Budget Analyst is responsible for producing budgets to actual reports and prepare analyses by contract and providing support in managing, tracking, monitoring and reporting financial data. This individual will also be performing financial analysis and assisting contract staff with budget assignments. This is a FT position that includes a comprehensive benefits package.

Qualifications include: BA in accounting, finance or other business related field and 3+ years experience in developing and/or analyzing budgets. Experience in U.S. Government contracting and regulations highly desired. High level proficiency in MS Excel and accounting software required and must possess effective time management skills and the ability to multitask extremely well. Job Code: Budget Analyst

PURCHASING ASSISTANT

This position will be half time Monday through Friday with a potential for full-time work in the future. The Purchasing Assistant is a member of ARD's administrative support staff and is responsible to the Vice President of Administration. The Purchasing Assistant is primarily responsible for assisting the Purchasing Coordinator with keeping the project inventories updated and with home office procurements and is also responsible for preparing short term contract agreements. Responsibilities also include responding with the project office concerning inventory procedures, inventory discrepancies and issuing or reconciling Property Purchase Reports, if inventories and assisting with annual inventory reporting to USAID.

Qualifications include: HS diploma or GED required and 2+ years of accounting support experience as a professional office environment preferred. High level proficiency in MS Office applications and high level proficiency in data entry and file management required. Must have very strong organizational skills and high attention to detail. Job Code: Purchasing Assistant

U.S. citizenship or a valid U.S. work permit is mandatory for both positions.

To apply: Please email a letter of application with your current resume to hrm@ardincaps.net. Please refer to the appropriate Job Code in the subject line. No phone calls will be accepted.

ARD Inc., is an affirmative action employer equally considering all qualified applicants. We do not discriminate on the basis of race, gender, ethnicity, age, sexual orientation, gender identity, marital status, religion, national origin, or disability. ARD Inc. is an Equal Opportunity Employer.



AUTISM BEHAVIOR CONSULTANT

The Autism Behavior Consultant is responsible to provide implementation and adherence to the Behavioral Analysis and Developmental Studies (BADS) model, including but not limited to the following: Interview conducted in the position should be able to conduct functional behavior assessment and then create function and implement this specific educational and behavioral intervention. The candidate will create individualized diagnostic written behavior analysis, intervention and home. Master's degree in a human services field plus a minimum of five to ten years of direct experience in field as supervisor in applied behavior analysis and functional behavioral assessment are required. Responsibilities include working with children with autism, parent, teacher, and other professionals for complete of details.

HR Dept., 107 Fisher Pond Road, St. Albans, VT 05478, 800
Please visit our website for complete details and complete listing of all job opportunities: www.wccap.org



EARLY CARE ADVOCATE (North River) Provide developmentally appropriate encouragement and experiences for preschool children in a Head Start classroom and monthly home visits for families. Assist families in accessing medical and dental care for preschool children.

Requirements: Bachelor's degree in early childhood education or related education field and minimum experience. Experience in curriculum planning and implementation, child outcome assessment and working with child in with special needs. 30 hours/week. 40 weeks/year. Starting wage: \$12.44-\$14.11/hour. Health plan and excellent benefits.

Successful applicants must have excellent verbal and written communication skills, skills in documentation and record-keeping, good organizational skills, ability to work with families and staff, and attention to detail. Must be energetic, positive, creative, professional, diplomatic, motivated, and have a positive extra-mile attitude. A commitment to social justice and to working with families with limited financial resources is necessary. Child driving record and license in reliable transportation required. Must demonstrate physical ability to carry out required tasks.

Please email resume and cover letter with the above information. No phone calls, please. Please send applications by email to jamie@chamvalley.org.

People of color and from diverse cultural groups especially encouraged to apply. EOE.

TOWN ASSESSOR

The Town of Colchester is seeking a qualified individual for the position of Town Assessor. The full-time position requires extensive knowledge of and experience in real estate valuation, as well as strong computer, analytical, organizational and communication skills. For more information, go to www.colchestervt.gov or call 802-244-3504.



Lamont County Mental Health Services

Lamont County Mental Health Services is a nonprofit organization that provides mental health services to residents of Lamont County.

Full-Time LPN

We are seeking to hire a full-time LPN for our CRT Program. This position coordinates medication monitoring, but does not provide direct physical health services. It does provide an array of services for people who experience symptoms of mental illness in need of medication support and crisis services, and documents these services according to accepted business and clinical standards and state regulations. Schedule may include nights and weekends. LPN certification required.

Send resume to:
Director of Human Resources
Lamont County, 22 Water at
Montpelier, VT 05601
or email to jstevens@lcsd.org.



Champlain Valley Area Health Education Center

Executive Director

The Champlain Valley Area Health Education Center (AHEC) is a nonprofit corporation, seeks an exceptional individual with strong leadership, communication and interpersonal skills to serve as Executive Director. The AHEC's primary goal is to help meet the health care needs of Vermonters by assisting with recruitment, retention and education of community physicians, students and residents in medicine, allied health training and social work. Champlain Valley AHEC serves Grand Isle, Franklin, Chittenden and Addison counties and is based in St. Albans, VT.

The Executive Director works for the Board of Directors, and in collaboration with the statewide AHEC network, including the UVM AHEC office. The Director supervises a staff and is responsible for the daily operations of the agency.

Qualifications sought: a Master's degree in a health-related field or at least 5 years in health care or higher education administration. The successful candidate must have experience in grant management, marketing and fundraising, excellent interpersonal communication, both oral and written, and organizational skills are required. Familiarity with the four county region is desirable. A complete job description is available at www.cvhac.org.

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The further information on this position and others is readily available, so to apply on-line, please visit our website at www.uvm.edu/employment. Job Number: 000078-2348, telephone: 802-241-5118. Applicants must apply by **January 1, 2013**. **Electronic Paper resumes are not accepted.** Job positions are updated daily.

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Supervisor of Custodial Services

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Winoski Natural Resources Conservation District

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VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR

ECHO Lake Aquaponics and Botanic Center located at the lovely Center for Lake Champlain in Burlington, Vermont, seeks an individual to assume the position of Volunteer Coordinator. The Volunteer Coordinator has a very important responsibility for managing ECHO's volunteer system and work study programs. This includes recruitment, orientation, retention and the general coordination among all departments of ECHO. The Volunteer Coordinator works 20 hours per week on a flexible schedule that is, to a certain extent, flexible for the volunteer. A BS or BA in education or a related field is required. One or more years of volunteer management experience (or equivalent experience) preferred.

To apply, email a cover letter and resume to info@echolake.org with Volunteer Coordinator in the subject field. An also can apply via "vol" mail at ECHO. Volunteer Coordinator Job Search: One College St., Burlington, VT 05401. For a detailed job description visit our website at www.echolake.org. The deadline for applications is December 31, 2009.



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Irish Ayes #P36 BEFORE CLASSIFIEDS



The Great Potato Famine caused the greatest influx of Irish immigrants. "Their decision to go to America was less a choice than an imperative," writes Pusey. "They were more refugees than emigrants." Turning made the Green Mountains an attractive option. The first year that Irish were streaming out of their homeland, 1846, was the same year that the railroad came to Vermont.

"The Famine hit just when Vermont was experiencing what I call a semi-industrial revolution," Pusey explains. Railroad construction made backbreak work, especially below jobs considerably available. "Construction hired thousands of Irishmen to dynamite rock, tunnel, lay ties, build bridges and trestles, align roads, and lay down spurs."

Most importantly, the ease and economy of shipping freight by rail made other industries possible. Western Vermont's extensive marble and slate deposits could now be transported long distances. Certain regions of Ireland had similar resources, and Pusey noticed a fascinating pattern. Clients of men from Tipperary, where slate was mined, migrated to the slate towns of Castleton, Putneyville and Poulinville. The same held true for Rutland County's marble industry. Its Irish workers got the nickname "stonepuggins," obscure in origin, which "suggested a rough and tough people," Pusey notes.

By 1860, the Irish were Vermont's largest ethnic group. Irishpeople created All-St. Catharine's, came to America on the Mayflower, and Vermonters codified it in the 1777 constitution, which excluded Catholics from holding political office. The flood of destitute Irishmen Irish increased tensions, some businessmen and workers drank heavily and got into violent brawls. This behavior collided with a budding temperance movement. When mid-19th century prohibition statutes passed, however, Pusey says that many Vermonters paid "lip service" to the law and looked to savvy immigrants — Irish, French-Canadians and Italians — to meet their moonshine and bootlegging needs.

Pusey describes the Civil War as "a defining experience" for the Vermont Irish, "marking a transformation from emigrant questers to red-blooded Americans." The war also shifted their neighbors' perspective. "Too many Irishmen had fought and died in the Union cause for them to be considered outsiders."

The last decades of the century saw the Irish "as the vanguard" of agitating for labor reform, and eventually rising to positions of political leadership. In the early 20th century, they dominated local politics in some towns. For example, between 1903 and 1915, Burlington elected two Irish mayors seven times — the last in 1915.

Pusey's account is both meticulous and engaging. Facts and stats only serve to make the compelling characters and circumstances come alive. Other immigrant communities have played important roles in shaping Vermont's history, says Pusey. "I hope interest in this one ethnic group opens interest in other ethnic groups in Vermont, and that other people will begin to come up with histories." ☐

Irishmen: Slaves and Stonepuggins
A History of the Irish in Vermont by
Vincent E. Pusey. Images from the Past.
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Get a comment? Contact Deborah
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Once room in Patrick and Lorenne Berner's South Burlington home is kept locked behind the door, a corky collection reveals the couple's passions: Patrick — who's a partner of the peace and runs a firearms training academy in addition to his main job at the Champlain Solid Waste District — has statues of eagles, telephones shaped like motorcycles, and a red, black and white clock promoting the National Rifle Association.

Berner's lifetime cook, but the collection has hit her just 11 years ago. Her mother owned a cherished copy of the 1910s-era *Household Scorchlight Recipe Book*, which had belonged to her own mother. "My grandmother was a cook in a diner during the Depression," says Berner. "The book was sold due to door for \$3, and she bought one. It had her own handwritten recipes in it."

When the baritone went missing, Berner recalls, her mother was desol-

The Joy of Cookbooks

A South Burlington baker's home boasts nearly 3000 recipe tomes

BY SUZANNE POSHAIZER

Lorenne has cookbooks, lots of 'em — and this is just a small portion of her collection. The chocolate-maker owns nearly 3000 volumes — more than enough to qualify her as Greater Burlington's cookbook queen.

Berner keeps about 75 favorites, including Miss Mary Buh's *Breading House Cookbook* on a three-tier wooden shelf in the center of the locked room for easy access. Across the way, in what used to be her son's bedroom, she stores more of her hoard. The volumes range from paperback bachelorette like those sold at the supermarket checkout to Berner's crown jewel: a tome from 1876 that has wedged in plastic in a pretty wooden box. The door to this room stays closed, too, to keep out the couple's eight cats, all of different ages and breeds. Katie, a fluffy *Pomeranian* with "superstition written" is allowed in.

The source of the bounty of books is no great mystery — many are gifts. Berner, who works at *All Cycle*, a division of Castella Waste Systems, buys about a third of them. Her husband brings the other two-thirds home from his work at CSWD.

One year, the Berners decided to find her another copy as a Christmas gift. They early located one online, and Berner's mother was thrilled to receive it.

"They when we started collecting," Berner says. "We went as volunteers to an Auctioneer, we went to eBay and started bidding on books." But then, she notes, getting great deals on the web was pretty easy. But Berner says she's watched buyers get mean away over the past decade — now a valuable older book gets plenty of attention.

Berner also lets up tagsales and visits Broom when they sell off extra stock. But the vast majority of her cookbooks come free from the CSWD drop off point where Patrick Berner works. In the beginning, he had to work to locate items suitable for his wife's collection. "He'd find them in the book bins," she says. "When people had books to drop off, he'd say, 'Do you have any cookbooks?'"

Unlike the online bidding, Patrick's task has gotten easier. Now many customers prefer to bring their food-related items straight to him. Although Patrick is not a cook himself — "He has friends



Lorenne Berner

and beans that he cooks on New Year's for us, but he's not the culinary artist" — he's very supportive of Lorenne's efforts, she says.

She backs up her statement with a wave at the walls of her library covered with funky, cooking-related antiques that Patrick has brought home. There are copper mallet shaped like an anvil, hearts and fish, porcelain models of the Pillsbury Doughboy, and old-fashioned egg beaters, graters and toasters.

And then there are the books. Some

are glossy modern productions, others corporate publications such as *The New York Times* of *Julia* and *Forrest Gump*. *My Favorite Chocolate Recipes*. Some books are true classics, such as *The Gasparillo Cookbook* put out by the Gasparillo family of Tampa in 1965, which commemorates the city's annual pirate festival. On its cover, a swarthy man with a beard, a sword and a pair of hoop earrings preens a platter

COVER STORY 49-51

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food

Eat These Books

Vermont cookbook authors weigh in

BY ALICE LEVITT

It's never been so cool to see Vermont written in, but this year brought an unusual bumper crop of local cookbooks as chefs to get ourselves — many with recipes designed for seasonal foods. For the Winter Reading issue, we asked some of Vermont's hottest cook book authors about their own favorite food books and holiday treats.

Pie Pease

Pease and her husband, glassblower Simon Pease, offer recipes with descriptions of how craft and their home. Cooks too late to tackle the couple's *Homestead Cookbook* and Simon Pease's *Seasonal Chicken With Noodles* can try them at the Quebec Home Pease

Our Players

Celine Bullock-Prado

Though her seasonal bakery closed last year, readers are snapping up Bullock-Prado's *Confections of a Closet Master Baker: One Woman's Sweet Journey from Whiskey Hollywood Executive to Connecticut Country Baker*.

Alison Hooper

The Vermont Butter & Cheese Creamery president published a *Cherryman's Kitchen: Celebrating 25 Years of Seasonal Creamery* from Vermont Butter & Cheese Company. The book benefits from Hooper's friends in high places. She includes recipes from culinary luminaries such as Eric Ripert and Blue Hill's Dan Barber.

Diana Ivins

The director of Nutrition Services at Fletcher Allen Health Care teamed up with the hospital's executive chef, Richard Jaramon, to write this year's *Cooking Close to Home: A Year of Seasonal Recipes*. Yes, they're experts in hospital food, but don't expect sparsely fire. Recipes include pumpkin bread pudding and cheddar apple tartarons.

Andrea Chesman

Chesman's collaboration with Peter Raboff debuted in August and bears the tantalizing title: *250 Treasured Country Dainties: Mouthwatering, Time-Honored, Tried & True, And Satisfying, Handled Down Sweet Confections*. Next summer, look for her healthier follow-up, *Recipes from the Root Cellar*.



Confections of a Closet Master Baker: One Woman's Sweet Journey from Whiskey Hollywood Executive to Connecticut Country Baker by Celine Bullock-Prado
Hardcover 140 pages, \$24

In a Cherryman's Kitchen: Celebrating 25 Years of Seasonal Creamery from Vermont Butter & Cheese Company
by Alison Hooper and Simon Pease
Hardcover 160 pages, \$19.95

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food

Eat These Books

What was your favorite restaurant dish this year?

Iris: Oh, I have a favorite. At Trattoria D'ella, the spaghetti alla Pomodoro. I just love that dish. But one at El Comodoro, for the first time — I wanted to make it myself — I added the stuffed mushrooms, which were just incredible.

Fear: This sounds really weird, but it's actually fantastic: bouillabaisse. I had pork belly with chestnut farro at our Brooklyn restaurant in West Chester, Penn. We have a new chef who was executive sous chef at the Glenmore Tavern.

Chasman: I just had an awful nice salmon over noodles at The Bullied Cow. I think it was served salmon on a bed of parsley noodles.

Bullock-Prude: I'm always blown away by anything at Max of the West.

Heeper: In fact, Italy, it was truffle season and we had fresh pasta with shaved truffles.

Is there any food item you would never include in a recipe?

Bullock-Prude: Dressing. I was reading up on the oldest cookbook known, *Apicius*, and dressing is a delicacy that calls for fermenting seasoned rice with figs and wild mushrooms.

Chasman: We do have a thing I wouldn't use. Well, Kraft meat and cheese, but that's not really an ingredient. I've even used Winstons. I wouldn't say never about anything.

Heeper: I'm not big on dips.

In terms of food, what is it that keeps you in Vermont?

Bullock-Prude: The greatest quality of food from our local farmers is unparalleled. Vermont has a general respect for food and its origins. We do eat food right in Vermont.

Iris: The abundance. Any season, pretty much anywhere in Vermont, you can get such abundance and variety, and it's such a small place that you can know who grows it. Here that I think it

would be fun and useful to have a perennant calendar farmers market like the ones in Montreal. That I think would be great. Great food is one thing that I do miss here.

Heeper: There is more that keeps me in Vermont than food, but the cheese here is pretty darn good. I grew up in Jersey and loved those tomatoes. I love a good



STYLING: JESSICA PETER



cup of coffee, but by the time climate change allows us to grow coffee beans in Vermont, we'll be under water.

Chasman: Vermont is the new California, but it's not what keeps me in Vermont. It's not about the food. I wish we had a Chateaufort. Part of why Vermont is so great is because of what we don't have — that we have to go elsewhere for it.

What are your culinary wishes for the New Year?

Bullock-Prude: I wish for my new commercial kitchen to be up and running before spring.

Heeper: My culinary wish is to hang out with friends and cook some good food. I also want to plant some more rows of leeks in the garden. Leeks are so organic in my kitchen.

Iris: I wish to go to Spain. That's where it will happen, but there's what I wish. That's a culinary one, other than good Mediterranean, I don't really know anything about its food. I hope to take a bike trip around Spain. That's how we like to do it, because then you can eat anything you want.

Chasman: I could hope for solving hunger, but that's so PC. I could hope for better ground labors, but that would hurt the fishermen. I guess I don't really have any wishes. ☺

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Cookbooks and

And there are intriguing period pieces, such as the first edition of *Sopra's Paper Bag Cooking*, printed in 1811. Its biener premise is that everything — including Stuffed Birds and Lobster à l'Américaine — can be cooked in the stove or heavily folded paper bags. According to the introduction, the method is more nutritious and more hygienic: "Lead, arsenic or dirt from our cooking vessels, or anything in the way of sickness, is avoided."

The author also explains that Sopra's methods allow single working women to "provide themselves with a simple and sufficient meal in half an hour," since otherwise their delicate systems might be too exhausted by a day's labor to sup on more than "a bun and a glass of milk." Perhaps paper bag cooking was the ancestor of the microwave?

Oddities like this have value even when they're never read for their recipes. Rich one captures the distinct feel of a certain time and place. Finding any particular cookbook can be a chase, though, Besser notes, since they're not organized. "I thought about doing the Dewey Decimal system, but that would drive me crazy," she says. Besser does maintain a printed "Master Cookbook List" in a three-ring binder, with each page numbered and protected by a plastic sleeve. She groups the books not by cuisine type or age (though the real entries are dated), but as "hardback," "paperback" and "miscellaneous." The last group includes items such as VHS tapes and CD-ROMs.

Cooking has been one of Besser's hobbies since she was 9, she says. "My mom started showing me how to cook, and I said, 'Mom, just let me do it.' I've been cooking since then." In the late '60s, she began entering cooking competitions at the Champlain Valley Fair. The walls of the couple's narrow kitchen are covered with ribbons newly tucked into frames, alongside other fair memorabilia.

Newby's hangs a leafy banner from Leavenworth, dated September 2, 2002, plus a handful of Besser's favorite recipes — for *garbanzo*, baked Potato Skins, *Gravy* Cookies and something called Besser's Market — printed on White House recipe cards. "I read it article in *People*, a little campy thing, that said she collected [cookbooks] also," Besser explains. "My husband and I should write to her, so I did. I just remembered that I collect cookbooks, too, and that I was glad she and I had something in common."

In cooking competitiveness as in collecting, Besser is army. The first year she threw her baked goods into the ring, she recalls, she got third place for pumpkin or nutmeg bread, she can't remember which. Then a friend advised her to add nuts. "I think walnuts are the bestest thing on earth," Besser says. "I put walnuts in and the next year I was second place!" She's also scored big for buttery layer cakes and chili.

When Besser isn't making her regular fare — "bookends with omelets and sandwiches," Moroccan dishes, and anything with chicken or turkey — she couple likes to visit area restaurants. They frequent "all the usuals in the area," says Besser — "Montech, Ground Round, 99 Restaurant and Chi's."

Meanwhile Besser hopes other collectors will be enjoying *over her cookbooks* — a planned series for youngsters called *Cooking With Ruby*. "I got the idea two years ago when I was walking the dog," she recalls. The books will be "about a little girl who cooks different things with her mom." Appropriately, Besser and her grown-up daughter are working on the series' first volume, which takes place on Halloween. After whipping up themed treats with her mom, the spunky Ruby enjoys a party stocked with the fruits of her labor, then goes trick or treating.

Although she hasn't yet found a publisher for her Ruby series, Besser is already adding to other people's collections. She created a community cookbook to support the Burlington Festival and Block Club, *Best in Competition*. It offers "an awesome recipe for Besser's Bricks!" and four methods for cooking French Canadian tourtière, she notes. "This is my mom's recipe, one's from a lady from Canada, one's my friend's and one's mine. I think it's ridiculous, but I was having trouble pulling recipes out of people."

Besser is looking forward to getting her 800-page cookbook list with her shelves filled to overflowing, she's gotten a bit pickier about her acquisitions. "I have done down," she says. "I want to concentrate on ones that are 1935 and older. I'm looking for things that are coming out of Grandma's attic."

Most of Grandma's recipes probably still taste pretty good — in cooking as in other realms, there's much to be said for reusing and recycling. Just be sure to stock up on better coated paper bags. ☺

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Season's Greedings

Holiday wishes from Vermont musicians

BY DAN ROLLES

'T is the season to be jolly. 'Tis also the season to make outrageous demands of our friends and family in the name of holiday spirit and Christmas loot. What follows are the seasonal hopes, wishes and outright plans of some of Seven Days' extended family and friends, the fine folks who make up Vermont's local music scene.

Duffell & I

- *Kyleah Ruffa doing a three night stand at New Orleans early 2010*
- *A record deal for The Artist.*
- *A video show on YouTube about the weekly (mis)adventures at 80u night.*

Jesse Hwang, starring comedian-turned-actor/rapper

- *I wouldn't mind scoring loads of college acceptance letters and/or the new Grammy-nominated album. The Artist as we wanted to live a year after in the world. That would be nice, too.*

Brad Barrett, aka The Humble Jambler, WRVU DJ

- *More punk-rock bands to play 10pker Ground.*
- *A record of the ska genre that doesn't exclude hundreds of knockoff ska-punk bands (except Hatebirds AKA and Last Real Big Red).*
- *Local bands sending their punk/ska/lo-fi/ind one to me to WVVU.*
- *To have a part of beer with Sea Jerome Sanders, Sea Patrick LeBaron/Honey The Logger/The News at The Three Moons.*

John "Eat Men Kake" guy, drummer in Reggae Roots parties at Lamb Abbey and you-purges-for-justice

- *A year long from every region of the world.*
- *For God Street Hampton to play in Vermont one year per year.*
- *That Willie Nelson and my mom could sit with me one of Willie's "love children."*

Colin McCallister, musician and recording engineer

- *Here's to a great winter mix with no feedback, a guitar that stops miraculously in time for a whole act, bass who actually buy a CD after seeing how much they love your music, a mix that a client likes more than the first song you sent them a year ago, and a brand new ribbon mic in every studio!*

Rachael Rice, vocalist, sweetheart of the all-chemistry noisies

- *I would like a female prod at play to*

that so much to ask? I've never seen one in my entire life. It would be like seeing a unicorn.

Big Heavy World

- *Over there. After you make Unseasoned available to the Boston only, would you make a big meal and a menu for us for our friends? If you can, can be an all-weather and some for the market who like to cook, and I'll glad, too. But just knowing you're making people happy everywhere makes it all OK.*

BJ Liu, club DJ and host of "Early Warming" on 98.5 FM The River

- *No more one-hit wonder. We should have been trying to make a comeback. Make it stay, please!*
- *How the second wave who thought Bob Dylan Christmas song about him is a good idea.*
- *A pair of tickets to U2 next summer in Montreal.*
- *A Burlington pig bar — for real.*

Rebecca Kopyevskiy, aka Noel's Venetian, aka employee of the Vermont Symphony, aka producer of Early Song Burlington's Musical Zanyarts

- *The end of the confusion between type and talent. They are not interchangeable. Hope does not equal talent and vice versa. Putting that, I'd like someone to hope the crap out of me. Seriously, I love to poop.*
- *I'd like to meet a guy who is the cutest of every day. I've dated in the past two years.*

Richard Endley, program coordinator, Burlington Parks & Rec/262 Music

- *I wish that Joey Ramone, Elton John, Strummer and Buddy Holly could be reined and play one concert — with three bands, of course — for me and my little girl Grace in our backyard.*

Sasha Rodriguez, drummer: The Facial Flava

- *My rock 'n' roll. I wish would be to eliminate the baroque-style borders involved in getting bands a decent number of bookings.*

Danny C, vocalist: The Staircase Rhyme Raps

- *More muck of war? There's rather? No, sure! There is an easy chair dance? I could use with a lighter heart? as a table.*

The Dirty Blonde

- *It's always better to give than receive. So I'd like to give everyone in the world a bottle of whiskey and a copy of the Wonder CD, for the Electric And we really wish that we would finish the show long before Christmas.*

Will Patton, mandolinist

- *Here's my formal wish for the new year: high speed rail service between cities for touring musicians. We'll arrive right down town, all back, full of ideas and smiling much better.*

Jeremy Ayers, host, WRVU's "Expresso"

- *Sounds I'd like to see on Vermont this year: Pawtucket, Love on Lighthouse, The XX, Spout, The Mountain Goats, Two Gallants, Wolfmother, Pavement, But for London, Black Mountain, Pink Mountain, The Black Keys, Dirty Projectors, Little Joy, Vinters, Miles, Benjamin, Anthony Sullivan and... Pavement.*

Mike Luzzo, author: earthside radio personality

- *I'd love to find a cool new radio pig sitting under my tree. And I hope the new year brings more people to radio, listening to and enjoying my books.*

Myra Flores, vocalist

- *10 drummers in a song.*
- *11 more pigs in playing.*
- *12 backing dancers.*
- *8 new bars to play in.*
- *8 Kings and nobles.*
- *7 broken bottles.*
- *4 made water in writing.*
- *3 make the money.*
- *4 extra singers.*
- *3 drink pig.*
- *2 "Pine Bird" requests.*
- *and a book on Christmas for me! @*



NA NOT HERE, MEAT HERE NO NEEDS

SAT 10-11 PM

MPY @ CTR (No Regs) 9 p.m. \$0
HARBONY'S HARVEST LUNCHEON Queen City Social Club
 (no reg) 9 p.m. Free
LECTURA @ Springfield Play & Eat (no reg) 9 p.m.
 Free
MOONSHINERS @ White Horse (no reg) 9 p.m. \$0
RAVENS @ White Horse (no reg) 10 p.m. Free
RED SOUL @ The Juke Joint 9 p.m. Free
SHIRAZ @ The Juke Joint 9 p.m. \$0 \$1 \$2 \$3 \$4 \$5
 (no reg) 10 p.m. \$2
THE BURNING @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m. \$0
THE BURNING @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m. \$0
THE BURNING @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m. \$0
THE BURNING @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m. \$0

central

THE CENTER LUNCHEON @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
 (no reg) 10 p.m. \$0
THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
 (no reg) 10 p.m. \$0
THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
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THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
 (no reg) 10 p.m. \$0

champlain valley

THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
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THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
 (no reg) 10 p.m. \$0

northern

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regional

THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
 (no reg) 10 p.m. \$0
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 (no reg) 10 p.m. \$0
THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
 (no reg) 10 p.m. \$0

SUN. 27

burton area

THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
 (no reg) 10 p.m. \$0
THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
 (no reg) 10 p.m. \$0
THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
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central

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champlain valley

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northern

THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
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THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
 (no reg) 10 p.m. \$0



By Local say what you will about **BRUCE PETERSON** and **THE HETTERNALS**, but Vermont's globe-trotting major label agency certainly share the love at home, especially around the holidays. Each year, during their traditional run of Higher Ground Ballroom shows leading up to New Year's Eve, the band take a few of its favorite up- and comers, local and otherwise, to warm up the crowd. Kicking off GPN's four night stand the Saturday is none other than local indie pop outfit **SANDWICH**, who, as luck would have it, are one our favorites to watch. Next of So, indulge your inner local heroes, Peter heads, and make sure to show up early.

MON. 28

burton area

THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
 (no reg) 10 p.m. \$0
THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
 (no reg) 10 p.m. \$0
THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
 (no reg) 10 p.m. \$0

central

THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
 (no reg) 10 p.m. \$0
THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
 (no reg) 10 p.m. \$0
THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
 (no reg) 10 p.m. \$0

northern

THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
 (no reg) 10 p.m. \$0
THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
 (no reg) 10 p.m. \$0
THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
 (no reg) 10 p.m. \$0

TUE. 29

burton area

THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
 (no reg) 10 p.m. \$0
THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
 (no reg) 10 p.m. \$0
THE Juke Joint @ The Juke Joint 10 p.m.
 (no reg) 10 p.m. \$0

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calendar

DECEMBER 22-30



23 & 24 | THEATER

Most Wonderful Time of the Year

Ah, Christmas. Everybody celebrates it in different ways—even folks who don't really celebrate it at all. In that case, *Mao Jew Comedy* may catch their fancy. As moonies can explain, "Ancient Hebrew texts and my Rabbi warn his or her self will confirm that Jews have congregated for centuries at Chinese restaurants on Christmas Eve." Confirming that deep-rooted tradition, Burlington comedian—and Vermont state rep—Jason P. Laffier has organized two evenings of Jewish jokes over a four-course Chinese sup. With the event in its fourth year, Boston's Zach Sherwin and Dan Crehn and San Francisco's Heather Gold join the party—one Jew's sparked similar shenanigans in New Hampshire and Connecticut. "More laughs, more eggrolls and more Jews," quips Laffier. Have yourself a merry little, er, chuckle.

MOO JEW COMEDY

Wednesday December 23 and Thursday December 24
8 to 10 p.m., at Asian Bldg. at WBUR 543-1334
direct: info 855-5566 www.mojew.com

4-110002

Put a Spell on Me

How do you spell *really*, meaning laugh-worthy? The book-smart youngsters at *Nathans Stage's 23rd Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee* could certainly tell you. This quirky, Tony Award-winning romp follows a handful of teenage miscreants as they battle it out, letter by letter, while struggling to maintain their quirky personas and stay "normal" members of society. Co-director Deborah directs a professional cast—with many of the actors fresh off national tours—on what the Washington Post calls a "loopy lollipop of a musical." Broadway choreographer DJ Gray steps out the moves, and a few lucky audience volunteers put their own orthographic skills to the test onstage. All in all, the laugh-out-loud musical is a timeless reminder of how *simultaneously cruel and unkind* it is to be yourself.

THE 25TH ANNUAL PUTNAM COUNTY SPELLING BEE

Thursday December 22, Wednesday December 23, Saturday December 26, and Sunday December 27, 2 & 7:30 p.m.
December 28, 7:30 p.m. and Tuesday December 29 and Wednesday December 30, 2 & 7:30 p.m. at Orpheus Opera House
White River Junction. View the website for future dates: 535-6870 info: 288-7022 www.nathansstage.org



22, 23 & 26-30 | THEATER

A Dinner Date

Contrary to popular belief, not everything shuts down on Christmas Day. For the fifth year, Burlington High School will bustle as more than 100 volunteers whip up a home feast and pile on the entertainment at the nondescript annual Holiday Dinner for Seniors.

Organized by Megan Humphrey of the nonprofit HANDS (Helping and Nurturing Diverse Seniors), the festive affair served 60 seniors and their families last year, and meals-on-the-go were hand-delivered to 280 older Vermonters. Love money by area kids, a visit from Santa and wrapped gift bags of donated goods add to the cheery atmosphere. "We work with other nonprofits and depend on volunteer help and donations, which proves once again how generous Vermonters are to their giving," says Humphrey. Head on over to join the merry-making.

HOLIDAY DINNER FOR SENIORS

Friday, December 23, 1 p.m. at Burlington High School, Free. Info: 334-3549 or 885-3353 (for space reservations, transportation or a list of delivery or donations: www.handsvt.org)

25 | FOOD & DRINK

Dashing Through the Snow

Ready for your own one-horse open sleigh ride? *Madeline Turner's Stargazing Sleigh Rides* up the aisle with a team of two *Pennsylvanian* draft horses leading a 12-person sled under the evening sky. Weather permitting, hand-drawn passengers can expect to see seasonal constellations such as Orion, the Pleiades (or Seven Sisters) and the Big Dipper. Guide Pat Palmer of *Thorpapple Farm* points them out during the 30-minute journey through the wooded estate designed by Frederick Law Olmsted, sharing star mythology as well as stories about the 4-year-old horses, Jake and Jerry. They're no flying reindeer, but this open-air jaunt along silent and (hopeful) snow-covered trails will still make your night.

STARGAZING SLEIGH RIDES

Saturday December 22 and Wednesday December 30, 6-9 & 9:30-12 p.m. at Madeline Turner
Meet at the Welcome Center 59-15 Elm for kids under 12. Preregistration info: 945-6586 www.starbarnfarm.org



26 & 30 | OUTDOORS

etc.

WINTER CRAFTS Ladies meet over the holidays and experience traditions, local resources and more. Meeting: 6:30-8:30 p.m. Donations accepted. Info: 833-8332

film

SYNAPSE See 543-25 7 p.m.

holidays

CHRISTMAS AT THE FARM See 543-25 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

kids

LEARN COLOR Kids ages 5 and up and their parents learn about making Christmas art projects and building supplies. Pickups free delivery. End sign: 2-3 p.m. Free. Info: 833-5255

LITERARY LITERATURE ADVENTURES FOR

WINTERCRAFT Call of your community arts group to find mental health resources for your art project. Free. Info: 833-5255

MUSIC WITH PETER For children ages 5 and up and their parents. Free. Info: 833-5255

POLAR BEAR NIGHT DANCE Polar bear in the belly of the bear. Free. Info: 833-5255

SERIES OF WINTERCRAFT For children ages 5 and up and their parents. Free. Info: 833-5255

music

PETER HELDER A singer and guitarist of music from around the world. Free. Info: 833-5255

STEVEN & GOLD The music of the world. Free. Info: 833-5255

outdoors

SUNSHINE RIDGE See 543-25 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

tattoo

BOB & HELEN & ERIK JENSEN Three friends from the world of tattooing. Free. Info: 833-5255

theater

THE 20TH ANNUAL PLYMOUTH COUNTY SPELLING BEE See 543-25 7:30 p.m.

THE BEST CHRISTMAS PLAY EVER See 543-25 7 p.m.

theater

THE 20TH ANNUAL PLYMOUTH COUNTY SPELLING BEE See 543-25 7:30 p.m.

TUE.29

dance

LINE DANCE CLASS See 543-25 7 p.m.

etc.

ENGLISH CONVERSATION GROUP See 543-25 7:30 p.m.

OUT OF THE CITY See 543-25 7:30 p.m.

WINTERCRAFT See 543-25 7:30 p.m.

film

SYNAPSE See 543-25 7 p.m.

health & fitness

LAUGHTER YOGA See 543-25 7:30 p.m.

holidays

CHRISTMAS AT THE FARM See 543-25 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

kids

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MUSIC WITH PETER For children ages 5 and up and their parents. Free. Info: 833-5255

PETER HELDER

A singer and guitarist of music from around the world. Free. Info: 833-5255

STEVEN & GOLD The music of the world. Free. Info: 833-5255

outdoors

SUNSHINE RIDGE See 543-25 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

tattoo

BOB & HELEN & ERIK JENSEN Three friends from the world of tattooing. Free. Info: 833-5255

theater

THE 20TH ANNUAL PLYMOUTH COUNTY SPELLING BEE See 543-25 7:30 p.m.

THE BEST CHRISTMAS PLAY EVER See 543-25 7 p.m.

theater

THE 20TH ANNUAL PLYMOUTH COUNTY SPELLING BEE See 543-25 7:30 p.m.

Holiday Week Events

2009-2010

ROCKET PARK SKIDDING (ages 8-10)

Lincoln Park, 2:30-4:00 PM beginning December 28, reservations recommended (817)

SUNSET GARDEN RIDES

6:00-8:00 PM daily from Dec. 25 through Jan. 3, reservations recommended (817)

CARMEN CAT FISHING DINING

Ally's Lodge, 5-10 PM on Dec. 28, Dec. 30-31 and Jan. 2-5, by reservation only (817)

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 23

Community Christmas Concert, 7:00 PM (817/817)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 24

Christmas Eve Non-Denominational Worship, 2:00 PM

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 26

Live Ape Music: Cars Cross Jax/Phoenix Grigs/The Road Bats 2:00-4:00 PM

Kids' Night Out, Health and Harvest Cafe, 5:00-8:00 PM (817)

Live Music: Fiddleheads, 8:00-endnight

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 27

Holiday Farmer's Market, 8:00-11:00 AM-2:00 PM

Live Ape Music: Anthony Sator/Tina/Denominational/Funky

Christmas, 9:00-11:00 PM

Family Gingerbread Cookie Decorating, 4:00 PM (817)

MONDAY, DECEMBER 28

Jazz the Circus, 4:00-6:00 PM

Ember Photography Workshops, Off-Pace in the Northwest, 7:00 PM (817)

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 29

Family Movie Night, Warren Miller's Chelms of Winter 7:00 PM

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 30

Yoga and Wine Social, 4:00-6:00 PM (817)

Friday Rock Climbing Party, 5:00-7:00 PM (817)

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 31

Live Ape Music: Jerry Baker/Wesley and Anne, 9:00-11:00 PM

Family Indian Dinner: Cere House Lodge, 4:00-6:00 PM (817/817)

Torchlight Parade and Fireworks, 5:00 PM

New Year's Celebration, Tundra Restaurant, 6:00 PM-alcohol (817/817)

Smile Arts Juggling: Cere House Lodge, 7:00-8:00 PM (817)

New Year's Celebration, Cattleback Pub, music from Sweet Jane, 1:00-11:00 AM

FRIDAY, JANUARY 1

Health and Harvest Club Open House Brunch, 9:00-10:00 AM

SATURDAY, JANUARY 2

Live Ape Music: Bass and Ray/Thompson/Life, 9:00-11:00 PM

Kids' Night Out, Health and Harvest Cafe, 5:00-8:00 PM (817)

Live Music: Sugar Bush, 8:00-endnight

For more information, reservations, and a complete listing of all activities and events, visit sugarbush.com or call 800.555.SUGAR

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Michael Sittman's postmodern, acrylic and oil fill a warm, paneled section of Deitch's Ende & Grogg Gallery with vibrant Stains. A professor at the University of Vermont with a long history as a chemist and a growing renown as an artist, his exhibition combines works in different media and genres and demonstrates a versatile and evocative style.

At the entrance of the gallery, I will eyed with snowy warblers catches the eye. In "Gracho Farm," snowy subtle pokes through a blanket of snow sweeping back to an angular farmhouse in midwinter. A phase of pale gray smoke fleets seems to engorge low of deep blue, orange lines. The palate of the piece — black, in-layers, grey and brown — simultaneously suggests cold and the low slung winter sun. Each element leads to the next, drawing the eye over the snowy hills and into the dark trees beyond.

Adjacent to the watercolor is a group of hand-drawn sketches, titled "Three

at first turn life on paintings. "Sun Flower in a Glass Jar" stands out with its creamy strokes and red. A citrusy puppy with purple petals leans heavily over the edge of a glass while other flowers peek behind, their edges slightly blurred against the painting's background. Despite its influence to compositions of the classic still life genre, the coloring looks fresh and lively.

In an adjoining section, bright, primary-colored works point to the influence of the California colorists—Stevens originally hails from that state. "North End Spring Snow" shows the daring influences of the Golden and Green Manzanita states. But Modes of color give way to painterly snow swelling down its alleyway. Seasons were measured in color and were of its temperatures. In



STRAUSS' EXHIBITION COMBINES WORKS IN DIFFERENT MEDIA AND GENRES AND DEMONSTRATES A VERSATILE AND EVOLVING STYLE.

this section, he takes the Vermont scores up in Celsius's brightness and down in degrees Fahrenheit. The effect is a kind of phobias pervades that reflects America's general approach.

Landscape is mostly between the other green groups, with an affluent and luminous palette of lime green and papaya orange. A

pair of Striped Road Vermont landscapes use saturated color to draw the viewer into the scene. Red grasses take the foreground, giving way to orange fields that stretch back to a perch over white cement from which to progression from low

are not always on story Road,² wary of shadows over a char-



trance melodies, creating a sense of floating drama that borders on the amnesiac. The music work has an otherworldly feel.

The works on the show open an inspiring, awe-ramp of genius and magic, though with various degrees of success. At his best, Struass creates with gusto, skill and a keen eye. These works suggest his experimentation in the studio might someday rival his triumphs in the laboratory.

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Realizations are

ALEXANDY JEWELRY ARTS COLLECTION

COLLABORATION Host to hand: works by jewelry designers Daria & Catherine Timothy Greene, Peter Jones Lemaire and Javi Tevel, and windows and doors. Workshops by kids will enter. Through December 23 at Aachen Jewelry Arts Collective at Buntington Inn, 440 BOSTON.

ANNA BORG is a senior algorithmic installer by the Hungarian-born Macbeth artist. Coated by Gamsa Fields, Through December 27 at 370 College Building, 4 University, 1000, 1000 1000.

REN SANGSE. *Lower-cost photographs of local Omani burials, of their families. Through December 31 at RedTape.com and RedTape.org. Info: 202-247-08*

“TOLERANCE: THE SEASON” is a holiday rental featuring nine original stories by the internationally renowned and award-winning writers, and introduces the paragon of Great Gayles and the Queens James and James a Schedule of Shakespeare. Also on view is jewelry by Rusty Rusty designed by Thrifts House. Through December 30th at Louise Jones Gallery in Manhattan. Info: 800-622-2222

CHRISTOPHER J. HARRINGTON: Selected paintings and drawings from the artist's collection. Through February 26 at Delkon Foundation, info: 955-8530.

CHRISTOPHER LEE *The Hunters*—photographs (mainly) of the diversity of the Newland landscape and processes and events of weather. Through December 31 at The Getty Center in Huntington 303-4709.

HILMA SCHULZE, KIM JORDAN, JOSEPHINE W. NACHREICHEN Visual ethics sharing works. A poetic, post-structuralist art practice and philosophy team up to pose for this third annual exhibit and readings event. Artworks will be viewed by open house after the exhibit on Thursday January 1st at Rose Street Artists Co-op in Burlington. Info: dharma@80signatures.com

ENTER ART LEADERS GROUP SHOW Original artwork by Lynn Friesen, June 20th by Jessica Katz and Elit Karamova. Through December 31st, 2009.

YOUNG LIFE More than a dozen new fully contemporary artists and a duo of designers from Norway, and around the world transform the gallery into a stunning minimalist and explore the aesthetic and human side of life's journey. Through February 19 at Fort Mason City Gardens, info 866 766 5

JANICE SOLAK, TERRY R. BOWEN
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Flut, "Bread, Butter, and the American Songbook"
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EXHIBITION DATE: Held at bold abstract paintings from the St. Albans and St. Albans Primary Colours series in the Chalkboard Club UPM space. Through December 26 at Silver Center UPM in Burlington. www.stalbansart.com

MASTHEAD Sample Entry: A Chase for All Seasons, entry scored 100/200 based on word, and other words in multiple: madhaya is other reg. and artists. Through January 30 at Fairport Southville Lullies: a life source. info: 100-1000

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James M. Patterson Along with fellow photographer Sara Wigton, Patterson presents a visual reminder of what's ahead, not the wine, as is suitably aptly titled "Wine's Depth, Two Perspectives." He conveys the pristine beauty of the white stuff in the pictured image, "Dewey's Road, Quakew, Va." The show is on view through December 15.

WILMINGTON AREA ARTS CENTER'S @ 2020

HUGHES/HELAND Indiana photography. Through January 16 at Studio 1800 in Washington. Info: 301-510-1100

HER CASTLE "Just guess! Openings!" Black and white photographs of regional native identities defined from the perspective of the subjects with mixed pigments and/or oil paints. Through December 11 at 1424 Lake Avenue and Science Center Library Center for Arts (Baltimore). Info: 410-634-1040

HOEHLER/REYNOLDS "Revels of the Mind's Original Ink." A series of paintings of a local artist's life and work, centered on the subject of the "Revels of the Mind's Original Ink." Through January 11 at The First Gallery in Washington. Info: 202-333-0333

HOELLER/REYNOLDS The newest art show has moved to the new art gallery in the new building above. Through December 11 at Rejoice Artworks in Washington. Info: 202-333-0333

KACONSKI Twenty five small paintings depicting the many different types of art and artists. Through December 11 at 1424 Lake Avenue and Science Center Library Center for Arts (Baltimore). Info: 410-634-1040

KEHLER/REYNOLDS "Revels of the Mind's Original Ink." A series of paintings of a local artist's life and work, centered on the subject of the "Revels of the Mind's Original Ink." Through January 11 at The First Gallery in Washington. Info: 202-333-0333

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THE ART OF ANATOMY: ARTIST CHOICES "The Art of Anatomy: Artist Choices" is a series of paintings of a local artist's life and work, centered on the subject of the "Revels of the Mind's Original Ink." Through January 11 at The First Gallery in Washington. Info: 202-333-0333

THE NEW YORK "New York from the Heart" is a series of paintings of a local artist's life and work, centered on the subject of the "Revels of the Mind's Original Ink." Through January 11 at The First Gallery in Washington. Info: 202-333-0333

seventeenth period collage and more. Through January 11 at Fine Arts in Washington. Info: 202-333-0333

TIN SANDHILL "Tin Sandhills" is a series of paintings of a local artist's life and work, centered on the subject of the "Revels of the Mind's Original Ink." Through January 11 at The First Gallery in Washington. Info: 202-333-0333

VOLUME 1000 "The Volume 1000 Project." The Volume 1000 Project is a series of paintings of a local artist's life and work, centered on the subject of the "Revels of the Mind's Original Ink." Through January 11 at The First Gallery in Washington. Info: 202-333-0333

central

A PARTISAN IN A PARTISAN A series of paintings of a local artist's life and work, centered on the subject of the "Revels of the Mind's Original Ink." Through January 11 at The First Gallery in Washington. Info: 202-333-0333

CELEBRATION A series of paintings of a local artist's life and work, centered on the subject of the "Revels of the Mind's Original Ink." Through January 11 at The First Gallery in Washington. Info: 202-333-0333

ELAN/REYNOLDS "Elan/Reynolds" is a series of paintings of a local artist's life and work, centered on the subject of the "Revels of the Mind's Original Ink." Through January 11 at The First Gallery in Washington. Info: 202-333-0333

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art ART SHOWS

central art shows 601

champlain valley
BARBARA PLAGIOLIN Installation of ink and glass, 821 in-met met. Through January 3 at Gallery in the Station London Ind. 203-2236

EVOLVING PATTERNS IN HONOR OF DANNIE JOHNSON Paintings, drawings and photographs of nature, 821 in-met met. Through December 23 at Station Gallery, Station Ind. 203-2236

FRAN RILEY In "Panda's Place" an installation of sculpture and glass, 821 in-met met. Through January 3 at Gallery in the Station London Ind. 203-2236

HELENE TERRY Paintings and photographs, 821 in-met met. Through January 3 at Station Gallery, Station Ind. 203-2236

JENNIFER HANSEN & JENNIFER RAY In "Panda's Place" an installation of sculpture and glass, 821 in-met met. Through January 3 at Gallery in the Station London Ind. 203-2236

REYER GARDNER In "Panda's Place" an installation of sculpture and glass, 821 in-met met. Through January 3 at Gallery in the Station London Ind. 203-2236

SHALL WORKS HELP ME A group of local artists, 821 in-met met. Through December 23 at Station Gallery, Station Ind. 203-2236

VERNON T. PIERCE In "Panda's Place" an installation of sculpture and glass, 821 in-met met. Through January 3 at Gallery in the Station London Ind. 203-2236

WINTER WOODS In "Panda's Place" an installation of sculpture and glass, 821 in-met met. Through January 3 at Gallery in the Station London Ind. 203-2236

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Mary Jo Krowlewski

The holiday spirit... a "Panda's Place" exhibit at Montpelier's Lay Pear Gallery features works by more than 10 artists. The seasonal offerings include a variety of Krowlewski's witty, satirical fiber works, such as the one, "Panda's Place". The show continues through December.

REBECCA TERRY In "Panda's Place" an installation of sculpture and glass, 821 in-met met. Through January 3 at Gallery in the Station London Ind. 203-2236

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Thanks for helping us do that!

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104.7 AND 93.3 IN BURLINGTON • 104.7 AND 100.3 IN MONTPELIER
95.7 IN THE NORTHEAST KINGDOM • 98.1 IN SAINT ALBANS
103.1 AND 107.7 IN THE UPPER VALLEY



Happy Holidays from The Point!

MOVIE CLIPS

REUNION 23
REUNITE THE ORPHANS: THE SARGANES.
 The high pitched screams in a hallway is the first hint it could be his—can't be the original—it introduces them. When Sargane and Theophrastus are there, he is in the middle. The Orphans. Parents. If he knows you, first of all, he's better. He's sitting through this. John Nelson says he's a big fan. With Ceryan. Love and the secrets of Aesha Lee. Amy Chamberlain and Love of the. Truly. Strong. dearest. Jill me. PL. Book. Physics. Physics. Physics. Physics. Physics and other books. (18)

UP IN THE AIR, 1995. George Clooney plays a frequent-flyer who travels around the country going about to be downed and corporate executives the bad news in director Juan Rodriguez's satire. With Vera Farmiga, Steve Kazdin and Jason Bateman (JCR into R. Rodriguez: *Pollock*, *Boys* and others) **Thriller** (PG-13)

[NOTE: Not all theater bookings confirmed; check event.org/announcements for updates.]

IT'S COMPENSATION: Cheryl Strayed and Alice Walker play a devotional candle service for themselves, honoring their mothers — even though it's now started to rain on the day — at the new *Where the Wild Things Are* (The Holiday) Meyers, Steve Martin, Luke Brailmont, John Krasinski, et al. (Huntington Bank, \$15)

[illegible]

SHAWLDRUM BRAWLER: Guy Bouché (right) has become more of a stylish artist than a posed photographer. Shown here: The new L'Oréal Paris Artistic Color Styler. L'Oréal's Internet Makeup Institute is played by artist Sherry J. with José Luis as his Muse at Radio City. Art is also fun. (Shawndrum here N.Y., PG 12; B.J. Shaw: Shawndrum here)

[illegible]

Worldwide Database connects that master of the gaily permissive *quintessential* Risk Independence Day: The Day After Tomorrow, a movie for the times with few liked, which compares quite like the ultimate cut-throat – at the end of the world.

While raising the question: Is what's in your gut going to do for you once? John Cusack, Christian Slater, Anne Hathaway and Woody from Toy Story (17 years old) are. *Movie*.

[illegible]

THE LONG GOODBYES Lorde's ballad shares its 10-line story of a well-to-do double family who later embrace youth, their stolen names, and hope for a better life in a dream of playing an American football with QBs, linemen, QBs, and linemen. Lorde's ballad is a dream of playing an American football with QBs, linemen, QBs, and linemen. Lorde's ballad is a dream of playing an American football with QBs, linemen, QBs, and linemen.

THE BODENBACH SAINTS & ALL SAINTS SAY:
 Winter doesn't stop the fun! Bring us in the snow!
 (also 1-800 call-toll-free about the other winter
 events of New England residents. With Great
 Full-fig. History Museum, Needle, and E. By Candle
 (Dinner & Entertainment)

FREE GIGAWATT The new film from writer-director Richard Linklater (*Before Sunrise*) leads into the question: If someone gave you a box with a label that said: if pushed, would you give a million dollars but a momentary take the life of a stranger, what would you do? Carrie-Anne Moss and James Marsden play the couple forced to decide. (PG-13) PG-13 (for drug use)

★ is refund eligible

★★ = a little better than average but not a lot
★★★ = has its moments, so to
★★★★ = smarter than the average bear
★★★★★ = as good as it gets

BATHING AT BANGS TO-HOVS NOT IMPROVED BY RICK KIDMAN'S DYNAMITE HARMONY AND COURTESY OF MELAC IN THE ROOM WHICH-ALWAYS SCORED ONLY BY TWO COUNTRY'S MOST WISDOM

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[illegible]

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COMICS+puzzles

MORE PUZZLES!
CROSSWORD PUZZLE
(PAGE 9 IN CLASSIFIEDS)

MORE COMICS!
TIM ALLEN'S (PAGE 10)
BET HEAT (PAGE 11)

MORE FUN!
MOVIE CLUES &
FREE BELL ASTROLOGY (PAGE 6 & 8)



⊗ CALCOKU BY JOSH REYNOLDS

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★

For the solving the numbers 1-9 only once in each row and column. The numbers in each square outlined "cage" must sum to the number in the cage. Numbers in the cage must be unique (no repeats). A cage can also be filled with the same number (e.g. 4 in the top corner of the cage can be repeated with a 4 in the top corner of the cage).



⊗ SUDOKU BY JOSH REYNOLDS

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★★★

Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row, each column, and each 3x3 box contains all the numbers 1-9. The same numbers cannot be repeated in a row or column.

★ = MODERATE ★★★ = CHALLENGING ★★★★★ = HOT BOY! — FIND ANSWERS & CROSSWORD IN THE CLASSIFIEDS SECTION



IS ANYTHING REAL?



ON YOUR TONGUE



Drawn by
D. Buchholz
age 6



NOVEMBER 15, 2007

NOVEMBER 15, 2007

NOVEMBER 15, 2007

NOVEMBER 15, 2007

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it really take off."

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*Graduate Assistant
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JOY, PEACE, LOVE & GRACE to everyone!

Thank you for a wonderful year. We are grateful to serve the community we love.